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PRAYERS

FOR

SOCIAL AND FAMILY WORSHIP

HEC CAMEN CONSUMEBATUR.

PRAYERS

FOR

SOCIAL AND FAMILY WORSHIP

PREPARED BY

A Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

AND SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR THE USE OF SOLDIERS, SAILORS, COLONISTS, SOJOURNERS IN INDIA, AND OTHER PERSONS, AT HOME OR ABROAD, WHO ARE DEPRIVED OF THE ORDINARY SERVICES OF A CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

ALSO

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS ON PARTICULAR OCCASIONS

BODLEIANA BIBLIOTHECA

Published by Authority of the Committee

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS
EDINBURGH AND LONDON
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PREFACE

A FULL statement of the circumstances which have led to this publication, and of the precise purpose for which it is designed, will be found in the Report of the Committee of the General Assembly on "Aids to Devotion," as given in the Appendix.

Meanwhile, it is scarcely necessary to premise, that no innovation whatever is contemplated on the long-established usages of the Church of Scotland, which, as is well known, are altogether opposed to the employment of any kind of Liturgy by her Ministers. The *Forms of Social Worship* contained in this volume are not intended for the use of Ministers in conducting the ordinary services of the Church, but simply as aids to the exercise of Social Worship, according to the manner of the Church of Scotland, by Soldiers, Sailors, Colonists, Sojourners in India or in foreign countries, who are deprived of the regular services of a Christian Ministry; and also by the inhabitants of remote and secluded districts of Scotland, who, being far removed from their churches, or separated from them by friths or arms of the

sea, are frequently excluded from the ordinances of the sanctuary.

With this view, the Committee of the General Assembly above referred to, have prepared Five Morning and Five Evening Services, together with a variety of Special and Occasional Prayers. And the General Assembly of 1858, to which they were submitted, was pleased to allow the publication of them, at the discretion and with the authority of the Committee, and to approve of a suggestion that, in the event of their being published, a few *Family Prayers for General Use* should be added to them.

In terms of this deliverance of the General Assembly, the Prayers, after careful revision, are now published, with the addition of Family Prayers for the mornings and evenings of *two weeks*, and for Sacramental and other special occasions, so as to render the Collection more generally acceptable and useful to all classes of Presbyterians, whether at home or abroad.

The Ten Forms of Social Worship contained in this collection have been chiefly compiled from the devotional writings of Calvin, Knox, and other Reformers, from the Westminster Directory for Public Worship, and from the Prayers of Richard Baxter and Henry Smith, as indicated in Appendix II. In preparing the Prayers for Family Worship, and also the Special and Occasional Prayers, the Committee have to some extent availed themselves of materials already existing, both ancient and modern. The alterations, however, that have been made upon these Prayers, in the course of revision by the several members of the Committee, are so great and so numerous, that in most cases it is now impossible to trace the portions

which have been selected, to their respective sources, or to distinguish them from those which are original.

It is proper to add that the General Assembly, while unanimously allowing the publication of this volume, were not asked (as will be seen from the Report of the Committee) to give any express sanction to the Forms of Worship contained in it. It was thought desirable that, before receiving any final *imprimatur* from the Supreme Ecclesiastical Court, the Prayers should, in the first place, be published by the Committee, and be thus subject to such further revision and amendment, as experience of them, when in actual use, may suggest.

At the same time, if these Prayers are calculated in any measure to supply the felt wants of Presbyterians "scattered abroad," there seems no reason to doubt that the circumstance of their being carefully prepared, minutely revised, and deliberately issued, by a large and influential Committee of the General Assembly of the Scottish National Church, will of itself be sufficient to recommend them to those for whose use and advantage they are designed.

In Name and by Appointment of the Committee,

THOS. J. CRAWFORD, D.D.
Convener.

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FORMS OF SOCIAL WORSHIP

FOR THE

MORNINGS AND EVENINGS

OF

Five Sabbaths.

"The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth."—JOHN, iv. 23, 24.

"Seeing that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."—HEBREWS, iv. 14, 15, 16.

These FORMS OF SOCIAL WORSHIP have been compiled from the Prayers of Calvin, John Knox, and other Presbyterian Reformers, and from the Westminster *Directory for Public Worship;* with the exception of the Fifth Morning and the Fifth Evening Service, which are selected from the devotional writings of Richard Baxter and Henry Smith.

FIRST MORNING SERVICE.

The Service may begin with singing a Psalm.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we come before Thee in the name of Thy beloved Son, whom Thou hast given as an offering for our sins, and for whose sake we are persuaded that Thou wilt not deny us any good thing. Be pleased to lift up our thoughts and affections towards Thee. And because we have need continually to crave many things at Thy hands, grant us the aid and guidance of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may ask such things as shall please Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

TRULY, O Lord, we are not worthy to come into Thy holy presence, by reason of our manifold sins and wickedness; much less to receive any grace or mercy from Thee. For we have sinned against Thee, O Lord; we have offended Thy holy Majesty. We were conceived in sin, and born in iniquity. And all the days of our life have we continued to follow the evil

desires of our carnal nature, instead of serving Thee, our God, with that earnest care and diligence which become us. Therefore, if Thou shouldst enter into judgment with us, and deal with us according to the rigour of Thy justice, good reason shouldst Thou have to punish us, not only in these our mortal bodies, but both in body and soul eternally.

But yet, O Lord, as we confess our transgressions, and the justice of that sentence which at Thy hands we have incurred, so also do we acknowledge Thee to be a merciful God and a loving Father to all them that unfeignedly turn unto Thee. Wherefore, we most humbly beseech Thee, for Christ's sake, to forgive all our offences. Impute not unto us the sins of our youth, neither reckon with us for the iniquities of our riper years; but as Thou hast ever shown Thyself merciful to all that have truly called upon Thee, so do Thou show the like mercy and favour unto us, Thy poor servants.

Endue us, O God, with such a true sense of sin, that we may pour forth before Thee the unfeigned sighs of broken and contrite spirits. Inflame our hearts with such a zeal for Thy glory, that our constant study and labour may be to serve and worship Thee in spirit and in truth. And to this end we beseech Thee to deliver us from all that may in any wise hinder us in Thy service; but specially from the crafts of the devil, the snares of the world, and the evil desires and affections of the flesh. Make Thy Holy Spirit, also, to take such full possession of our

hearts, and so to dwell therein, that not only all the actions of our lives, but all the words of our mouths, and all the thoughts and purposes of our minds, may be wholly ruled and guided by His power. And grant that all our time in this world may be so spent in Thy true fear and service, that we may at last end our lives in Thy favour, and in the hallowing of Thy blessed name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with Thee, O Father, and with the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, both now and for ever.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

PSALM VIII.*

O LORD our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth! who hast set Thy glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast Thou ordained strength because of Thine enemies, that Thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy

* Although here and in the other Services a particular Psalm is indicated, any other may be substituted.

fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained;

What is man, that Thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that Thou visitest him?

For Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands: Thou hast put all things under his feet:

All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

Then may be read a portion first of the Old, and afterwards of the New Testament, a Psalm being sung between the two portions.

Let us pray.

HONOUR and praise be given to Thee, O Lord God Almighty, for all Thy mercy and loving-kindness shown unto Thy people, in that it hath pleased Thee, of Thy goodness, freely to choose them in Christ before the foundation of the world. Continual thanks be given to Thee for creating us after Thine own image; for redeeming us, when we were utterly lost, with the precious blood of Thy beloved Son; for sanctifying us with Thy Holy Spirit through the revelation and knowledge of Thy Holy Word; for helping and succouring us in all our necessities; for

saving us from dangers of body and soul; for comforting us with Thy fatherly pity in our tribulations; for sparing us so long, and giving us so large a time of repentance.

These benefits, O most merciful Father, we acknowledge ourselves to have received of Thy goodness alone. And we beseech Thee, for Thy dear Son's sake, to grant us always Thy Holy Spirit, whereby we may continually grow in thankfulness towards Thee. By His grace also may we be led into all truth; comforted in all our adversities; strengthened in our faith; and animated with a more fervent love to Thee, and to our neighbours, for Thy sake. Suffer us not any more to receive Thy Word in vain; but grant us at all times Thy gracious aid, that in thought, word, and deed, we may glorify Thy name.

Let us not lack anything, O Father, without which we cannot serve Thee; but do Thou so bless all the works of our hands that we may not be chargeable, but rather helpful to others. And whatsoever in Thy providence Thou sendest, teach us to be heartily content with Thy goodwill and pleasure.

Be ever merciful, O Lord, to our offences. And seeing our debt is great, which Thou hast forgiven us in Jesus Christ, do Thou make us to love Thee and our brethren so much the more.

Be Thou our leader and defender in all temptations; and hold Thou us by Thy merciful hand, that we, being delivered from all evils, may end our lives in the sanctifying and honouring of Thy holy name,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord and only Saviour. —Amen.

Here may be introduced any special Petitions or Thanksgivings that may be thought seasonable, whether extemporaneous or from the *Occasional Prayers*.

Then, after singing a Psalm, may follow a Sermon or Exposition. But in the event of there being no volume of Sermons, or approved Commentary, to which the persons, who use these Forms as a substitute for the services of a Minister, may have recourse, it is suggested that one of our Lord's discourses, or the whole of one of the Apostolic Epistles, or some other large portion of Holy Scripture, may be here read for the edification of the worshippers.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, that this seed of Thy Word, now sown among us, may take such root within us, that neither the burning heat of tribulation may cause it to wither, nor the thorny cares of this life may choke it; but that, as seed sown in good ground, it may bring forth fruit abundantly to Thy praise. And seeing that we, by reason of our infirmity, are able to do nothing without Thy help, and that Thou knowest with how many and how great temptations we are on every side encompassed, we pray that Thy strength may sustain our weakness, and Thy grace defend us from all assaults of evil. Strengthen our faith, O merciful Father, that we may not swerve at any time from Thy heavenly Word. Increase in us

also hope and love, with an earnest desire to keep Thy commandments. And suffer no hardness of heart, no hypocrisy, no evil affections, no enticements of the world, to draw us away from obedience to Thy blessed will.

Give us grace also, whereby we may be enabled not only to love Thee the Lord our God, with all our heart and soul and mind, but also to love our neighbour as ourselves. Teach us to be of one mind, to be pitiful, to be courteous; to follow after the things which make for peace, and things whereby one may edify another. And all things whatsoever we would that men should do unto us, help us to do even so to them.

O LORD, who hast taught us to make our prayers and supplications for all men; we beseech Thee to lead all such as are yet ignorant, from the miserable captivity of blindness and error, to the pure understanding of Thy heavenly truth; that they and we, with one consent and unity of mind, may worship and serve Thee, our only God and Saviour. May Thy people everywhere be earnest in seeking to advance and extend the kingdom of the Redeemer, whether among the heathen who are sitting in gross darkness, or among the scattered sheep of the house of Israel; and may Thy promise be speedily fulfilled, that men shall be blessed in Jesus, and all nations shall call Him blessed.

Give grace, we pray Thee, to all pastors and minis-

ters, to whom Thou has committed the dispensation of Thy Holy Word; that both in life and doctrine they may be found faithful, setting only before their eyes Thy glory; and that by them all poor sheep that go astray, may be gathered and brought home to Thy fold.

O God, who hast the hearts of rulers in Thy hands, we beseech Thee to direct and govern all kings, princes, and magistrates, to whom thou hast committed temporal power, so that they may ever rule in Thy fear.

Especially do we beseech Thee thus to bless our Sovereign Lady, Queen Victoria. Let Thy fatherly favour ever preserve her, and Thy Holy Spirit govern her heart; and may she in such wise execute her office, that religion may be purely maintained, manners reformed, and sin punished according to the rule of Thy Holy Word. Bless also the Prince Consort, Albert Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family. Plentifully bestow on them the bounties of Thy providence, and yet more enrich them with the treasures of Thy grace.

May it please Thee, O God, to defend and bless the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with all its colonies and dependencies. And grant that the power and influence which Thou hast committed to our nation, may be used not for ourselves alone, but for the promotion of Thy glory, and for the good of all mankind.

Give, we beseech Thee, to the Queen's Ministers and Counsellors, to the Nobles and Representatives of the people in Parliament, to the Magistrates and

Judges, and to all that are invested with lawful authority, a spirit of wisdom, and of judgment, and of the fear of the Lord; that whatsoever they do, may, in Thy providence, be conducive to the advancement of pure and undefiled religion, and to the honour and welfare of our Sovereign and her dominions.

[We more especially implore Thy blessing on that colony in which our lot hath been cast; that it may please Thee to promote all its interests, whether temporal or spiritual. Give grace to Thy servant, who in our Queen's name administers the government amongst us, and to all subordinate Magistrates and Rulers, that they may execute their office for Thy glory and for the public good; and that we, under them, may lead quiet and peaceable lives, in all godliness and honesty.] *

We pray for the British Army and Navy, that it may please Thee to support them in all their hardships, and to grant them defence and deliverance in all their perils.

We beseech Thee also, O heavenly Father, for all such as are in any way afflicted with war, plague, or famine; with sickness, poverty, imprisonment, or any other kind of chastening, whether it be pain of body or unquietness of mind; that it may please Thee to give them patience, constancy, and submission to Thy will, until Thou send them full deliverance from all their troubles. And most earnestly do

* This and other passages within brackets may be read or omitted, according to circumstances.

we plead with Thee, O Lord, for those that are nigh unto death; that by Thy grace Thou wouldst prepare them for their change, strengthening their faith and hope in the Redeemer who hath brought life and immortality to light, and giving them through Him an abundant entrance into Thy heavenly kingdom.

Furthermore, O gracious Father, we beseech Thee to show Thy great mercies upon such of our brethren as may be sorely tried or persecuted for the testimony of Thy truth. Though they be utterly destitute of man's aid, yet let Thy sweet comfort never fail them; but so inflame their hearts with Thy Holy Spirit, that they may boldly and cheerfully abide such trial as Thy divine wisdom shall appoint, so that, as well by their death as by their life, the kingdom of Thy Son may increase and shine through all the world.

Finally, O Lord, we entreat Thee for ourselves, that it may please Thee to pardon our offences, to hear our prayers, to accept of our praises, and to bestow upon us all needful blessings, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son, our Lord and only Saviour.—Amen.

Then may be sung a Psalm or Paraphrase.

BLESSING.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all.—Amen.

FIRST EVENING SERVICE.

The Service may begin with singing a Psalm.

Let us pray.

O THOU that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come. Bow down Thine ear, O Lord; hear us, for we are poor and needy. Rejoice the souls of Thy servants; for unto Thee do we lift up our souls. For Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive, and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee.

Thy mercy, O Lord, is in the heavens; Thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds; Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; Thy judgments are a great deep. O Lord, Thou preservest man and beast. How excellent is Thy loving-kindness, O God; therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Thy wings. They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of Thy house; and Thou shalt make them drink of the river of Thy pleasures. For with Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light shall we see light.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we do not present ourselves before Thy Majesty trusting in our own worthiness, but in Thy manifold mercies. Thou hast promised to hear our prayers for the sake of Thy beloved Son; and hast also commanded us in His name to meet together, with full assurance that He will be in the midst of us, and, as our Mediator and Advocate, obtain for us all things which are good.

Wherefore, we beseech Thee, most gracious Father, to turn Thy loving countenance towards us. Impute not unto us our manifold transgressions, whereby we justly deserve Thy wrath; but graciously receive us, for the merits of Jesus Christ, in whom only Thou art well-pleased, accepting His death and passion as a full atonement and satisfaction for all our offences. In Him may we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of Thy grace. And for His sake may it please Thee to remember us with the favour which Thou bearest unto Thy people, and to visit us with Thy salvation.

Grant us grace also, whereby we may be enabled wholly to give ourselves up to Thy service. May all our thoughts, words, and deeds, redound to the praise and honour of Thy name. And may our light so shine before men, that they may see our good works, and glorify Thee, our Father in heaven.

Blessed Lord, who hast called us, of Thy mere favour, to be joint heirs with Thy Son of that ever-

lasting kingdom which Thou hast prepared for us before the foundation of the world, we beseech Thee to increase our faith and knowledge, and to enlighten and sanctify our hearts by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may steadfastly walk before Thee in godly conversation and integrity of life, remembering that the impure and unrighteous shall in nowise inherit the kingdom of God.

Grant also, O Lord, that, thus ever walking in the love and fear of Thy holy name, we may be continually nourished by Thy goodness with all things which thou knowest to be needful for us, and may use Thy gifts with contentment and thankfulness. And whereas we are so miserably frail and prone to evil, and so constantly beset and assaulted by our spiritual foes, that we cannot for a single hour stand upright in our own strength, we earnestly beseech Thee to arm us with Thy grace, and to strengthen us with the might of Thy Holy Spirit, so that we may withstand all temptations, and finally obtain the full victory over all our enemies.

Give ear, we pray Thee, to these our humble petitions, for the sake of our only Mediator, Jesus Christ, in whose name also we yet farther implore Thy gracious help at this time, and unto whom, with Thee, O Father, and with the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end.—Amen.

PSALM XIX.

THE heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handiwork.

Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge.

There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard.

Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath He set a tabernacle for the sun;

Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.

His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes:

The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey, and the honeycomb.

Moreover, by them is Thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

Who can understand his errors? cleanse Thou me from secret faults.

Keep back Thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.

Then may be read a portion first of the Old and afterwards of the New Testament, a Psalm being sung between the two portions.

Let us pray.

MOST gracious God, we humble ourselves before Thee, confessing that we are not worthy of the least of all Thy mercies. We adore Thee as the Father of Lights, from whom cometh down every good and every perfect gift. And ascribing no worth or excellence to ourselves, we would, as long as we live, render unto Thee due praise and unceasing thanks for Thine unmerited goodness.

We plead for the continuance and increase of Thy benefits. And we earnestly pray that Thou wouldst teach us to apply them to those ends and uses for which they are conferred; that, sharing whatever Thou givest in a brotherly spirit with our fellow-men,

and using all that we have for their good and Thy glory, we may prove ourselves to be true children of Thee, who dost not disdain to be called our Father in heaven. As we have freely received, teach us freely to give; walking in love, as Christ also loved us, and doing good to all men for His sake.

Help us also, we beseech Thee, to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things. In whatsoever calling we are called, may we be enabled therein to abide with Thee; not slothful in business, but fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rendering unto all their dues; providing things honest in the sight of all men; doing justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with Thee, our God. And let our rejoicing be the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have our conversation in the world.

O LORD our God, who knowest that we have daily need of Thy divine aid and guidance in our earthly pilgrimage, dispose us, with true humility, to rely on the teaching of Thy Word and the grace of Thy Holy Spirit. Conscious of our own ignorance and blindness, may we ever have recourse to Thee, lest in any way we be seduced by the wiles of the tempter or the wickedness of ungodly men. And do Thou so direct us in our course, that we may at last come to that heavenly glory which hath been obtained for us by the blood of Thy beloved Son.

Graciously hear us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who hath taught us thus to pray — "Our Father which art in heaven," &c.

Here may be introduced any special Petitions or Thanksgivings that may be thought seasonable, whether extemporaneous or from the *Occasional Prayers.*

Then, after singing a Psalm, may follow a Sermon; or, if there be no Sermon, one or other of our Lord's discourses, or other large portions of Holy Scripture.

Let us pray.

O LORD our God, Thy mercy is without measure, and the truth of Thy promise abideth for ever. We are unworthy that thou shouldst look upon us. But thou hast promised that thou wilt show mercy to the most grievous offenders, whensoever they repent; and that thou wilt give Thy Holy Spirit to such as humbly call upon Thee. Trusting in this promise, we pray, O Father of Mercies, that it may please Thee to work in our stubborn hearts an unfeigned sorrow for our past offences, together with a lively sense of Thy grace and mercy, and an earnest desire of that righteousness in which we are bound continually to walk. But because neither we nor our prayers can stand before Thee, by reason of that imperfection which still remaineth in our corrupt nature, we place our trust in the obedience and perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator, for whose sake we ask of Thee, not only the remis-

sion of our sins and the aid of Thy Holy Spirit, but all other things which Thou knowest to be expedient for us.

Cause Thy blessed Gospel, we beseech Thee, to come to us, not in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance. And teach us to receive it, not as the word of men, but as it is in truth the word of the living God, which effectually worketh in them that believe. Perfect that which is lacking in our faith; fill us with all joy and peace in believing, that we may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost; strengthen us with might according to Thy glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness; and make us to increase and abound in love, one toward another, and toward all men; to the end that Thou mayest stablish our hearts unblamable in holiness before Thee, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

O LORD, who hast commanded us to pray for all men, and first for those who are in authority, we beseech Thee to give unto all Princes and Rulers the guidance and direction of Thy Holy Spirit, that they may govern their subjects according to Thy blessed Word.

Especially do we beseech Thee thus to bless our gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria, and with her to bless also the Prince Consort, Albert Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family. Enrich them with all

spiritual blessings, and enable them faithfully to serve and honour Thee, in the exalted stations Thou hast assigned to them.

We pray for the whole Church of Christ throughout the world, and especially for that portion of it with which we are connected; that Thou wouldst strengthen, purify, and extend it, and add to it daily such as shall be saved.

We earnestly beseech Thee for all Thy ministering servants, that they may be found faithful and zealous in their great work, and that by Thy grace they may be instrumental in bringing back many stray sheep into Thy fold.

Moreover, we make our prayers to Thee, O God, for Jews, Heathens, Mohammedans, and all such as are yet ignorant of Thy Gospel, that they may be brought into the way of salvation; and likewise for those whom Thy grace hath already enlightened, that they may continually increase in godliness, and may show forth in all things the glory of their God and Saviour, and may earnestly seek to communicate to their fellow-creatures that knowledge of Thy truth, with which they have themselves been favoured.

Father of mercies, we implore Thy tender compassion for all such as Thou hast visited with any manner of affliction or distress. Relieve the destitute; heal the sick; protect the friendless; comfort the bereaved; support the dying, and prepare them for their change. Give unto all Thine afflicted people abundant consolation, and good hope through grace.

And may Thy fatherly chastening, though for the present not joyous, but grievous, yield in them afterwards the peaceable fruits of righteousness.

We pray for our kindred, our friends, and our benefactors, that they may prosper in all things and be in health; above all, that their souls may prosper. We pray also that Thou wouldst grant Thy forgiveness to such as have in any way injured or offended us, and that Thou wouldst enable us from the heart to forgive them.

Finally, O Father, into Thy hands we commit our spirits; Thou hast redeemed us, O Lord God of truth. May it please Thee to perfect that which concerneth us, and to supply all our need according to Thy riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Now unto Him who is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy; to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever.—Amen.

Then let a Psalm or Paraphrase be sung, after which

THE BLESSING.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all.—Amen.

SECOND MORNING SERVICE.

The Service may begin with singing a Psalm.

Let us pray.

MOST gracious God, our heavenly Father, we thank Thee that Thou hast promised to hear our prayers for the sake of Thy beloved Son, and hast also taught us to meet together in His name, assured that He will be in the midst of us, to intercede with Thee in our behalf, and to obtain for us whatsoever good things we shall agree on earth to ask of Thee. Wherefore, being now met, in obedience to Thy commands, and in dependence on Thy promises, we earnestly beseech Thee, through Him who is our only Saviour and Mediator, that Thou wouldst freely pardon all our sins, and so lift up our thoughts and draw forth our desires towards Thee, that we may be enabled to call upon Thee from our inmost heart, and to frame our petitions in accordance with Thy blessed will.

O LORD our God, Eternal and Almighty Father, we acknowledge and confess before Thy holy Ma-

jesty, that we are poor sinners, born in corruption, prone to evil, unable of ourselves to do that which is good; transgressing daily and in sundry ways Thy holy commandments; and, by Thy just judgment, deserving of condemnation and death.

But, O Lord, we are deeply grieved for having offended Thee. We condemn both ourselves and our sins with unfeigned penitence. We seek refuge in Thy mercy; and we humbly entreat Thee to help us in our misery.

Be pleased, then, O Father of Mercies, to have compassion on us; and for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son, to pardon all our sins. Grant unto us, also, and increase in us continually, the grace of Thy Holy Spirit; that, acknowledging and bewailing more and more our iniquities, we may renounce them with all our hearts, and bring forth fruits of righteousness and holiness, well-pleasing in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

MOST gracious God, who hast given Thy dear Son to be offered on the cross for the remission of our sins, and hast taught us that there is now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus; cause us, we beseech Thee, to feel assured that Thou art in Him our reconciled Father, not imputing unto us our trespasses, but providing us with all things needful for our good, that both by our words and works we may magnify Thy name. Suffer us no longer to live unto ourselves, according to the desires of a corrupt and sinful nature; but may He who died for us also live

in us, and raise us to that better life, which is holy, blessed, and unchangeable for ever. Grant us grace also, that we may never be unmindful of those great benefits which through Him Thou has conferred on us; but that, bearing them always engraven on our hearts, we may daily advance and grow in that faith which is effectual unto every good work. Thus may the rest of our lives be devoted to Thy glory, and the good of our fellow-men, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with Thee, O Father, and with the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth in the unity of the Godhead, world without end.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

PSALM XXV.

UNTO Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

O my God, I trust in Thee: let me not be ashamed; let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Yea, let none that wait on Thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.

Show me Thy ways, O Lord; teach me Thy paths.

Lead me in Thy truth, and teach me: for Thou art the God of my salvation; on Thee do I wait all the day.

Remember, O Lord, Thy tender mercies and Thy loving-kindnesses; for they have been ever of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to Thy mercy remember Thou me for Thy goodness' sake, O Lord.

Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will He teach sinners in the way.

The meek will He guide in judgment; and the meek will He teach His way.

All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.

For Thy name's sake, O Lord, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great.

What man is he that feareth the Lord? him shall He teach in the way that He shall choose.

His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth.

The secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him; and He will show them His covenant.

Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord; for He shall pluck my feet out of the net.

Turn Thee unto me and have mercy upon me; for I am desolate and afflicted.

The troubles of my heart are enlarged: O bring Thou me out of my distresses.

Look upon mine affliction and my pain; and forgive all my sins.

Consider mine enemies, for they are many; and they hate me with cruel hatred.

O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I put my trust in Thee.

Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on Thee.

Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

Then may be read a portion first of the Old, and afterwards of the New Testament, a Psalm being sung between the two portions.

Let us pray.

MOST gracious God, in whom alone dwelleth all fulness of light and wisdom; illuminate our minds, we beseech Thee, by Thy Holy Spirit, in the true understanding of Thy Word. Give us grace to receive it with reverence, and humility, and faith unfeigned. May it lead us to put our whole trust in Thee alone, and so faithfully to serve Thee, that by our godly lives we may edify our brethren, and glorify Thy holy name. And since it hath pleased Thee to number us among Thy people, do Thou help us to yield Thee the love and homage that we owe, as children to our Father, and as servants to our Lord.

O GOD, Thy glory is great in all the Churches, and the praises of Thy name resound in all the assemblies of Thy saints. We, Thy servants, humble ourselves before Thee. We adore Thy supreme Majesty. We extol Thy power, Thy wisdom, and Thy goodness, which shine forth so brightly in the great works of creation and redemption. We bless Thee for all those temporal and spiritual benefits, which we con-

tinually receive at Thy most bountiful hands. But above all would we unite with all Thy people assembled on this Thy day, to praise Thee, that Thou didst send Thy Son into the world to save us; and that, having delivered Him for our offences, Thou didst raise Him again for our justification, and through His glorious resurrection from the dead didst give us the blessed hope of everlasting life.

Grant, we beseech Thee, that these our thanksgivings may come up with acceptance before Thy throne. Help us also to show forth Thy praise by a sincere and constant obedience to Thy holy will. And may we all at the last day have part in the resurrection of the just, and in the glory of Thy heavenly kingdom, whither Jesus the Forerunner is for us entered; where also He liveth and reigneth, and is worshipped and glorified with Thee and the Holy Ghost, God blessed for ever.—Amen.

Here may be introduced any special Petitions or Thanksgivings that may be thought seasonable, whether extemporaneous or from the *Occasional Prayers*.

Then, after singing a Psalm, may follow a Sermon; or, if there be no Sermon, one or other of our Lord's discourses, or other large portions of Holy Scripture.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast made known to us in Thy Son, the fulness of all blessing and glory, grant that we may ever continue grounded and settled in Him. Let us not swerve at any time from our attachment to Him; but may we be so satisfied with

Him as our Prophet, Priest, and King, that we shall give ourselves wholly to His guidance and protection. Suffer us not to doubt that by His grace we shall be sanctified and made acceptable to Thee. But, relying on Him as our Mediator, may we yield ourselves to Him with full confidence of heart, and so strive to glorify Thee in Him, and Him in Thee, throughout our whole lives, that at length we may be made partakers of that heavenly glory, which He hath purchased for us with His most precious blood.

Help us also, we beseech Thee, to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called, with all lowliness, meekness, and long-suffering; forbearing one another in love, and endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of our mouths, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And putting away from us all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil-speaking, may we be kind one to another, and tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven us.

O GOD, who hast taught us to make prayers and supplications for all men, and first for those who are in authority; we entreat Thee to give grace to all Rulers and Magistrates, that with true faith acknowledging Thy Son Jesus Christ to be King of kings, and Lord of lords, they may serve Thee, and exalt Thy rule in their dominions, and so govern their

subjects according to Thy Word, that Thy people everywhere, being kept in peace and quietness, may serve Thee without fear in all godliness and honesty.

Especially, O Lord, do we beseech Thee thus to bless our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria; protect her person; prosper her government; and greatly enrich her with all spiritual and heavenly blessings. We pray also for the Prince Consort, Albert Prince of Wales, and all the other members of the Royal Family; together with all those who, in Thy providence, are invested with lawful power and authority; that, faithfully serving Thee in their several stations and offices, they may enjoy Thy favour and advance the public good.

We commend our Army and Navy to Thy care, beseeching Thee to defend them from all dangers, and to grant them success in all their undertakings.

Almighty Saviour, we pray for all those whom Thou hast appointed pastors of Thy flock, and intrusted with the dispensation of Thy Gospel. Guide them by Thy Spirit, that they may ever be found faithful and zealous in promoting Thy glory and the salvation of men. And grant that by them, all poor wandering sheep may be sought out, and made subject to the Lord Jesus, the Chief Shepherd, and in Him grow up and increase in all truth and holiness.

Most Gracious God, Father of Mercies, who wouldst be acknowledged the Saviour of all the world in the redemption accomplished by Thy Son Jesus Christ, we pray that those, who are

yet strangers to the knowledge of Thee, may, by the preaching of Thy Word, and the enlightening of Thy Spirit, be brought into the right way of salvation, which is to know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent. Grant also that those whom Thou hast already visited with Thy grace, and instructed in the knowledge of Thy truth, may grow daily in all godliness, being plenteously enriched with all spiritual blessings, and united to each other in the perfect bond of charity, so that they all with one heart may ever praise Thee, and give due honour and service to Thy Christ, their common Lord, Lawgiver, and King.

God of all comfort, we commend to Thee all those whom Thou art pleased to chasten with any trial or affliction; all nations visited with pestilence, famine, or war; all persons afflicted with poverty, sickness, bondage, or other distress, whether of body or of mind; that it may please Thee to show them Thy fatherly kindness, and to chasten them only for their profit; to the end that, turning with their whole hearts unto Thee, they may receive perfect consolation, and in Thy good time full deliverance from all their troubles.

Especially, O Lord, do we commend to Thee our brethren, who, being persecuted by the enemies of Thy truth, are deprived of the privilege of publicly joining in Thy worship; together with all who are called in any way to suffer in the cause of truth and righteousness; that it may please Thee, O Father of

Mercies, to strengthen them by the might of Thy Spirit, so that they may not faint or fall away, but steadfastly persevere in their holy calling. Succour and help them according to their need. Comfort them in their afflictions. Defend them in their perils. And increase in them all the graces of Thy Spirit, so that whether in life or in death they may glorify Thee.

Finally, O God our gracious Father, grant unto us who are here gathered together in the name of Thy Holy Child Jesus, that rightly and unfeignedly acknowledging our lost estate by nature, and conscious that in ourselves there dwelleth no good thing, we may, with our whole heart and with firm confidence, give ourselves up to Thy beloved Son, our Lord and only Saviour and Redeemer; and that He, dwelling in us, may mortify all remaining sin, and perfectly renew us for that better life, wherein we shall exalt and magnify Thy blessed name, ever, world without end.

We ask these blessings for ourselves and for our brethren, in the name, and through the mediation of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

Then let a Psalm or Paraphrase be sung.

BLESSING.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all.—Amen.

SECOND EVENING SERVICE.

The Service may begin with singing a Psalm.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, we call upon Thy name, beseeching that it may please Thee to turn away Thy face from our great and manifold transgressions, whereby we do not cease to draw Thine anger upon us. And because we are most unworthy to appear before Thy sovereign Majesty, we pray that Thou wouldst graciously regard us in Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son, accepting the merit of His death in satisfaction for all our offences, that by His atonement we may become well pleasing in Thy sight. Pour down upon us Thy Holy Spirit, illuminating our minds in the true understanding of Thy Word; and bestow upon us grace that, receiving Thy truth into our hearts with humility and reverence, we may be led to place all our trust in Thee, and may live in Thy service and worship, to the glory of Thy Holy name.

O THOU, whose name alone is Jehovah, Thou art the Most High over all the earth. Thine is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is Thine; Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. Whom have we in heaven but Thee? and there is none upon earth that we desire besides Thee. Our flesh and our heart faileth; but Thou art the strength of our heart, and our portion for ever.

Most gracious God, we humble ourselves before Thee, acknowledging our innumerable offences, and beseeching Thee, for Christ's sake, not only to forgive them, but so deeply to impress us with their guilt, that we may earnestly seek to be more and more delivered from them.

We thank Thee, that of Thy great goodness Thou art day after day inviting us to repentance, and showing Thyself ever ready to forgive; and we pray that Thou wouldst not suffer us, through our perverseness, to receive Thy grace in vain; but that Thou wouldst teach us heartily to submit to Thee, sorrowing grievously for all our past offences, cherishing a sincere and earnest concern for true godliness, and striving throughout our whole lives to do those things that are well pleasing in Thy sight.

God of all grace, who hast enlightened us by Thy blessed Gospel, and called us out from the world that we may join ourselves to Thy people, for whom Thou art preparing mansions in the heavens; grant,

we beseech Thee, that, ever mindful of our high calling, we may pursue our pilgrimage on earth with spirits looking upwards unto Thee, as becometh those who are heirs of everlasting life.

Dispose us also cheerfully to submit to the guidance and government of Thy Holy Spirit, and to listen attentively to the teaching of Thy Word, that, knowing what Thou art pleased to require of us, we may steadfastly endeavour to walk in Thy precepts. And grant that we all, in the stations Thou hast allotted to us, may be so enabled to discharge our several duties, as to show that we are wholly subject to Thy power, and heartily submissive to Thy will; looking for Thy help in all our undertakings, and seeking to advance Thy glory in all our works.

Almighty God, who art pleased in this world to subject us to manifold troubles and distresses, for the exercise of our faith and patience, grant that in the midst of them we may ever remain tranquil, through firm reliance on the promises Thou hast made to us. Though storms should gather around us on every side, may we neither faint through despondency, nor fall away through unbelief, but look up to Thee, as carrying on the government of the world, not only for the punishment of the ungodly, but for the protection and preservation of Thine own people. And may we bear patiently such trials as shall befall us, without being disturbed or disquieted in our minds, until we are at length brought to the promised land of rest, where, freed from all troubles, we shall

enjoy that eternal blessedness which Thou hast prepared for us through Thine only begotten Son.

Hear us, we beseech Thee, and graciously accept of us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and only Saviour.—Amen.

PSALM XXVII.

THE LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.

For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion: in the secret of His tabernacle shall He hide me; He shall set me up upon a rock.

And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in His tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

When Thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto Thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek.

Hide not Thy face far from me; put not Thy servant away in anger: Thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up.

Teach me Thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.

Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.

I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

Then may be read a portion first of the Old, and afterwards of the New Testament, a Psalm being sung between the two portions.

Let us pray.

MOST gracious God, the source of all blessedness, we give Thee thanks for the manifold mercies which of Thy bounty Thou art continually bestowing on us. We bless Thee that Thou not only providest for us all things needful to sustain us in the present life, but that Thou art pleased also to nourish our souls unto that better life which is revealed to us in Thy Gospel.

Grant that our hearts may with true gratitude acknowledge, while our lips proclaim Thee to be the Giver of all good. And let it be the purpose of our whole lives to honour and serve Thee, looking for all prosperity to Thy favour and blessing, and seeking only such things as are pleasing in Thy sight.

Enlighten our minds, we beseech Thee, by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may be guided in the ways of righteousness. Defend us in soul and body from all evil. Take us into Thy good keeping all the days of our lives. And ever increase in us the gifts of Thy grace, until we be perfected in the glory of Thy Son Jesus, who shall replenish our souls with His everlasting light and gladness.

And that we may obtain these blessings at Thy hands, may it please Thee to cast out of Thy remembrance all our past offences, and of Thy boundless mercy to forgive them, as Thou hast promised unto such as call on Thee in truth.

Graciously hear us, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, in whose words we further pray—"Our Father," &c.

Here may be introduced any special Petitions or Thanksgivings that may be thought seasonable, whether extemporaneous or from the *Occasional Prayers.*

Then, after singing a Psalm, may follow a Sermon; or, if there be no Sermon, one or other of our Lord's discourses, or other large portions of Holy Scripture.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast kindled among us the light of Thy heavenly truth, and art daily inviting us to receive Thy offered salvation, grant that we may not shut our eyes, or close our ears, or harden our hearts against Thee. But as Thou ceasest not to call us to Thyself, may we earnestly seek to follow hard after Thee, and persevere in the course set before us, until Thou at length receive us into that heavenly kingdom, which hath been purchased for us with the blood of Thy beloved Son.

Blessed be Thou, O God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, according to Thine abundant mercy, hast begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved for us in heaven. Grant, we beseech Thee, that having this hope in us, we may set our affection on things above and not on things on the earth, and seek to be holy in all manner of conversation; desiring to walk worthy of God, who hath called us unto His kingdom and glory, and giving thanks unto Thee, O Father, who hast made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.

NEITHER ask we these benefits for ourselves only, but also for all people and nations of the earth. Be

pleased to make known the way of salvation to all who are yet in ignorance or error. Bring in, we beseech Thee, Thine ancient people the Jews, with the fulness of the Gentiles, into the Christian Church. Raise up true and faithful ministers of Thy Word, who shall seek, not their own ease and ambition, but the honour of Thy name, and the welfare of the flock. Remove all errors, heresies, and divisions, whereby Thy Church is weakened and disturbed, that all Thy people may be of one mind, and may dwell together as brethren in unity.

Rule with Thy Spirit all kings and governors, and more especially our gracious Sovereign, Queen Victoria, and those who under her bear authority amongst us, that their dominion may be exercised in all justice and rectitude. May we also, who are under them, pay them due honour and reverence, and lead quiet and peaceable lives in godliness and honesty.

Be pleased to comfort all whom Thou hast visited with any kind of tribulation; the nations whom Thou chastenest with war, famine, or pestilence; and all men whom Thou dost afflict with poverty, sickness, bereavement, or any other distress of body or of mind. Grant them firm patience under their trials, and bring them, in Thy good time, out of their afflictions.

We commend our friends to Thy friendship; our benefactors to Thy bounty; our enemies to Thy forgiveness.

Preserve and defend, we beseech Thee, all Thy Churches which are labouring and contending for the testimony of Thy blessed Name; together with all Thy faithful children, who in any place are suffering persecution for Thy heavenly truth. Give them steadfast constancy and perfect consolation. Defeat and bring to nought all the counsels of their enemies. So may Thy glory, O God, be revealed, and the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ more and more increased and promoted.

And now, O God of peace, who broughtest again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, do Thou make us perfect in every good work to do Thy will, working in us that which is well-pleasing in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.—Amen.

Then may be sung a Psalm or Paraphrase.

BLESSING.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all.—Amen.

THIRD MORNING SERVICE.

The Service may begin with singing a Psalm.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn unto Thee and live; and hast sent Thine only begotten Son to suffer the cruel death of the cross, that by Him we may have access to Thy throne of grace; we desire now to approach Thee in His name, confessing our sins, and craving Thy forgiveness. And most humbly do we beseech Thee, O Lord, to touch and move our hearts by Thy Holy Spirit, so that we may be brought to a true knowledge of our transgressions, sincerely condemning in ourselves whatsoever Thy law condemneth; and that we may attain also to a lively sense of Thy mercy, which Thou hast abundantly showed unto mankind in Jesus Christ our Lord.

MOST merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before Thee, that we are miserable sinners, con-

ceived and born in iniquity, so that in us there is no goodness. For the flesh evermore rebelleth against the spirit, whereby we continually transgress Thy holy precepts, and provoke Thy righteous displeasure.

We lament the unbelief and blindness of our minds, the hardness and impenitency of our hearts, our ingratitude for Thy mercies, our distrust of Thy promises, our lukewarmness and barrenness in good works. In many things have we offended, doing that which Thou hast forbidden, and leaving undone that which Thou hast enjoined. Nor have we sinned only through ignorance and infirmity, but also presumptuously, against the light of Thy truth, the checks of our own consciences, and the motions of Thy Holy Spirit, so that we have no cloak for our sins.

But yet, O Lord, we are encouraged to approach Thee, with the hope of a gracious answer to our supplications. We trust in the sufficiency of that one sacrifice which Thy beloved Son hath offered for us on the cross, and in the efficacy of that intercession which He ever liveth to make for us in heaven. For His sake we humbly beseech Thee to turn away from us the terrors of Thy wrath, and to bestow upon us Thine unmerited mercy in the free and full remission of all our sins.

May it please Thee also, to shed abroad Thy love in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, and to seal unto us, by the same Spirit of adoption, the blessed assurance

of our pardon and reconciliation; that so we may be filled with joy and peace in believing, and may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Vouchsafe also, with the forgiveness of our sins, to grant us the sanctification of our natures. May the sin that dwelleth in us be mortified and subdued. May our dead souls be quickened and raised up to newness of life. May grace be given us, according to our need, to fit us for all our duties towards God and towards man. Let Thy divine power also so strengthen our weakness, that neither the craft of Satan nor the enticements of the world may draw us away from obedience to Thy blessed will. And may we be enabled by holiness of life to show what difference there is between the children of light and the children of darkness, so that men, seeing our good works, may glorify Thee and Thy Son Jesus Christ, to whom, with Thee and with the Holy Spirit, be all honour and praise, both now and for ever.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

PSALM XLII.

AS the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God.

My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?

My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?

When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holy-day.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God; for I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance.

O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember Thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar.

Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of Thy water-spouts: all Thy waves and Thy billows are gone over me.

Yet the Lord will command His loving-kindness in the daytime, and in the night His song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

I will say unto God my Rock, Why hast Thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

As with a sword in my bones, mine enemies reproach me; while they say daily unto me, Where is thy God?

Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God; for I shall yet praise Him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Then may be read a portion first of the Old, and afterwards of the New Testament, a Psalm being sung between the portions.

Let us pray.

O LORD our God, Father everlasting and full of compassion, hear from heaven, Thy dwelling-place, our prayers and thanksgivings, which we now pour forth before Thy throne.

In the multitude of Thy mercies, Thou hast not only made us reasonable creatures, but also, of Thine inestimable goodness, Thou hast sent the Angel of the Covenant, our Lord Jesus Christ, to redeem us. By Him Thy wrath is turned away; Thy law is satisfied; the power of death and of Satan is subdued; and to us, who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, the light of His Gospel shining on us hath clearly shown the way to everlasting life.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He hath visited and redeemed His people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David, as He spake by the mouth of His holy

prophets, which have been since the world began; that we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him, all the days of our life.

With these spiritual benefits, it hath pleased Thee, of the same goodness, to continue temporal blessings. From day to day Thou hast preserved us and provided for us. Thou hast been our hope, our refuge, and our fortress. Thou hast covered us with Thy feathers, and under Thy wings Thou hast made us to trust. Thou givest us richly all things to enjoy.

Grant to us, O merciful Father, thankful hearts for these Thy manifold loving-kindnesses. Open our mouths to praise Thee, and to offer that sacrifice of thanksgiving wherein Thou dost delight. Give unto us also unfeigned penitence for all our past ingratitude towards Thee. Fill us with godly sorrow for our sins, with deep hatred of them, and with a hearty love to Thy righteousness, that we, being not conformed to this wicked world, but making Thy will the rule of our whole conduct, may present ourselves a living sacrifice unto Thee, consecrating to Thy glory both body and soul with all their powers.

Preserve us, O Lord, from the bondage of iniquity; and arm us with might to strive against Satan, the flesh, and the world, and all things that would turn us away from Thy service; that, walking in Thy paths, and observing Thine ordinances, we may end

our lives to the honour of Thy name, and finally obtain that crown of righteousness which is laid up for those who are faithful unto death.

Hear us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and only Saviour.—Amen.

Here may be introduced any special Petitions or Thanksgivings that may be thought seasonable, whether extemporaneous or from the *Occasional Prayers.*

Then, after singing a Psalm, may follow a Sermon; or, if there be no Sermon, one or other of our Lord's discourses, or other large portions of Holy Scripture.

Let us pray.

WE most humbly beseech Thee, O Father of Mercies, for Jesus Christ Thy Son's sake, that, as Thou hast caused the light of Thy Word clearly to shine among us, and hast plainly instructed us in the way of salvation, so it may please Thee inwardly to move our dull hearts, and by the power of Thy Holy Spirit to fill them with that holy fear and reverence which Thou requirest of Thy chosen. Grant us unfeigned sorrow for our former offences, and a comfortable sense of the remission of our sins, through that one sacrifice which is acceptable to Thee, the obedience and death of Thy well-beloved Son. And enable us, for the time to come, to render a faithful obedience to Thy commandments.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is

named, we humbly beseech Thee that Thou wouldst grant us, according to the riches of Thy glory, to be strengthened with might by Thy Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in our hearts by faith; that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints, what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height, and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge; that we may be filled with all the fulness of God. And this we pray also, that our love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that we may approve things that are excellent; that we may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ unto the glory and praise of God.

O LORD, who hast taught us to pray for our fellow-men, we make request, not only for ourselves, and others whom Thou hast already called to the true understanding of Thy holy will, but also for all people and nations of the world. As they know by Thy wonderful works that Thou art God over all, so may they be instructed by Thy Holy Spirit to believe in Christ, their only Saviour. But since they cannot believe except they hear, nor hear without a preacher, and none can preach except they be sent, we pray Thee, O Lord, to raise up faithful ministers and missionaries of Thy truth, who, setting aside all worldly considerations, may both in their

life and doctrine seek only Thy glory. Maintain Thy cause against all opposition; advance the interests of Thy Church throughout the whole earth; and teach us all to feel how greatly it concerns us to strive, while we pray, for the coming of Thy Son's kingdom, and for the conversion and edification of our fellow-men.

Be very gracious to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with all its colonies and dependencies [and more especially to that Colony in which we dwell]. Preserve to us unimpaired our liberties and privileges. Continue the light of Thy glorious Gospel among us; and help us to walk by it as children of the light.

Be pleased to regard with Thy favour our gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria. Protect her by Thy providence. Sanctify her by Thy grace. Grant that her reign may be long and prosperous; and that she may finally receive a crown of glory.

Bestow also Thy favour on the Prince Consort, Albert Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family. May they be true members of the household of faith, and heirs of Thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant, we pray Thee, to the Queen's Ministers and Counsellors, to the Houses of Parliament, to the Magistrates and Judges [and more especially to Thy servant who in our Queen's name administers the government among us], the guidance and direction of Thy wisdom; that they may be enabled, in their

several offices, to advance Thy glory and the public good.

We pray for the British Army and Navy, that it may please Thee to strengthen and protect them, and to make them, under Thy providence, instrumental in preserving our peace and defending our liberties.

Be pleased to grant us favourable weather and fruitful seasons. Abundantly bless our provision, and satisfy our poor with bread.

We commend to Thine especial protection all who are exposed to danger by land or by water; beseeching Thee to defend them from all evils of body and of soul; to conduct them in safety to their destination; and to sanctify their experience of Thy mercy to their eternal profit and joy.

We implore Thy fatherly kindness and compassion on behalf of all widows, orphans, and strangers; on behalf of the poor, the sick, the sorrowful, the dying, and all who are in any kind of danger or distress, beseeching Thee to comfort and relieve them. May the trial of their faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, be found unto praise, and honour, and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ. And while they look at those things which are not seen, may their light affliction, which is but for a moment, work for them a far more exceeding, even an eternal weight of glory.

Grant these requests, O Father, we beseech Thee, and all other things needful for us and for Thy whole Church, according to Thy promises made to us in

Christ Jesus; unto whom, with Thee and with the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, both now and for ever.—Amen.

Then let a Psalm or Paraphrase be sung.

BLESSING.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all.—Amen.

THIRD EVENING SERVICE.

The Service may begin with singing a Psalm.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast deigned to gather us into Thy Visible Church, grant that we may never turn aside from the purity of thy worship; but, always regarding what pleaseth Thee, may order all our doings and thoughts in obedience to Thy revealed will; and so honour Thee, both in spirit and in outward forms, as becometh those who are true members of Thy Son's body, that Thy name may be glorified in us. We thank Thee that Thou hast promised for His sake to be present in the assemblies of Thy people, and to grant their requests for whatsoever good things they shall agree on earth to ask of Thee; and we beseech Thee to help our infirmity, and so to lift up our thoughts, and draw forth our desires towards Thee, that we may render an acceptable service through Jesus Christ our Lord.

GREAT art Thou, O Lord, and greatly to be praised;

Thy greatness is unsearchable. Thou, even Thou, art Lord alone: Thou hast made the heaven of heavens with all their hosts; the earth and seas, and all that is therein; and Thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth Thee. Great and marvellous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are Thy ways, Thou King of saints. Who shall not fear Thee, O Lord, and glorify Thy name? for Thou only art holy.

Merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before Thee, that we are poor and miserable sinners, who, by transgressing Thy holy commandments, have provoked Thy wrath and incurred Thy just judgment. In many ways have we grievously sinned against Thee; not only by outward offences, but still more by inward iniquities of the heart; by blindness and unbelief, by pride and covetousness, by ingratitude and forgetfulness, by impatience and discontentment, by envy, malice, and other evil affections; as Thou, O Lord our God, well knowest; and we, alas! cannot deeply enough deplore.

But, O Lord, we repent in sorrow for having thus offended Thee. We heartily condemn ourselves, and our transgressions; and most humbly do we beseech Thee to pardon us, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour, in whom we have redemption through His blood, according to the riches of Thy grace.

O GOD of peace, who hast so loved us, as to give Thine only begotten Son to be the propitiation for our

sins; we acknowledge that without Thy grace we cannot rightly know or truly believe in Him. Wherefore we beseech Thee, according to Thy promise, to pour out upon us Thy Holy Spirit, whereby we may be led into all truth. Enlighten our minds in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith; enliven our hope; inflame our love; increase our consolation; inspire us with all holy gladness and assurance of spirit; and seal us unto the day of our final redemption.

Grant also, O God, that henceforth we may be enabled to bring forth fruits meet for repentance, ceasing to do evil, and learning to do well. And let Thy grace, which bringeth salvation, teach us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world, looking for that blessed hope, even the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

O LORD, who hast deigned to instruct us by Thy heavenly doctrine, dispose us with meekness and humility to learn of Thee. Open our hearts to receive in a teachable spirit whatsoever Thou art pleased to declare to us in Thy Holy Scriptures. Rejoicing in Thee as our Father, may we greatly delight in those blessed testimonies which Thou hast there given of Thy paternal grace and favour. Let Thy Word be

more precious to us than gold, and sweeter than honey. And let us earnestly covet it, and feed upon it, until we obtain that fuller satisfaction which Thou art reserving for us in the presence of Thy glory.

Graciously hear us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and only Saviour.—Amen.

PSALM LXXXIV.

HOW amiable are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!

My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even Thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house: they will be still praising Thee.

Blessed is the man whose strength is in Thee; in whose heart are the ways of them.

Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools.

They go from strength to strength; every one of them in Zion appeareth before God.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of Thine anointed.

For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly.

O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in Thee.

Then may be read a portion first of the Old Testament, and afterwards of the New, a Psalm being sung between the two portions.

Let us pray.

MOST gracious God, who hast not only bestowed on us many good gifts for the nourishment of our bodies, but hast also provided for us all things necessary for the spiritual life and welfare of our souls; we pray that, receiving such bounty at Thy hands, we may learn to acknowledge and adore Thee as our Father in heaven. We confess that we are constantly beset by many evil desires and affections, whereby we are hindered from seriously considering and thankfully acknowledging Thy benefits. And we humbly implore the guidance of Thy Holy Spirit, that by Him we may be led to meditate on all Thy doings, and to give unto Thee the glory that is due for the justice, faithfulness, and undeserved goodness, which in all Thy works and ways Thou hast displayed towards us.

Grant also that Thy goodness may lead us to repent-

ance. And since Thou hast dealt so mercifully with us, though justly provoked to wrath by our iniquities, may we no longer abuse Thy patience, but, hating and sorrowing for our sins with true repentance, may we yield ourselves up to Thee with all our hearts, and steadfastly follow the course Thou hast set before us; until, all our works in this life being ended, we come at length to that blessed rest, which Thine only begotten Son hath prepared for us in heaven.

Grant, we beseech Thee, these our humble petitions, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who hath taught us to pray, saying—"Our Father," &c.

Here may be introduced any special Petitions or Thanksgivings that may be thought seasonable, whether extemporaneous or from the *Occasional Prayers.*

Then, after singing a Psalm, may follow a Sermon; or, if there be no Sermon, one or other of our Lord's discourses, or other large portions of Holy Scripture.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who shinest upon us in Thy Word, to reveal the way of salvation, grant that we all may behold and receive Thy truth. And as by nature we are blind, do Thou open our eyes, we beseech Thee; and let the inward light of Thy Spirit lead us to the clear shining of Thy Word. Suffer not the flame of faith, once kindled in our hearts, ever to be extinguished. But do Thou continually feed and sustain it; until at length we shall see Thee face to

face; and, being transformed into Thine image, shall enjoy the fulness of that glory, into which Christ our Lord hath been already received.

Grant, heavenly Father, that henceforth we may be ever occupied in doing those good works which Thou requirest of us. Give us grace, that we may love Thy Word fervently, search it diligently, understand it truly, receive it humbly, and live by it consistently. Teach us never to rejoice in anything that displeaseth Thee, but evermore to place our delight in those things which Thou approvest. Keep us upright among diversities of opinions and judgments in the world, that we may never swerve from Thine eternal truth. And so rule all the actions of our lives that in us Thy holy name may be glorified, Thy Church edified, and Satan finally confounded.

O GOD, be merciful unto us, and bless us, and cause Thy face to shine upon us: that Thy way may be known upon earth; Thy saving health among all nations. Let the people praise Thee, O God, let all the people praise Thee. O let the nations be glad, and sing for joy; for Thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Let the people praise Thee, O God, let all the people praise Thee. Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.

Father of lights, from whom cometh down every good and every perfect gift, grant unto all preachers

and ministers of Thy Word the gifts of Thy Holy Spirit in such abundance as Thy divine wisdom knoweth to be expedient for the perfect instruction of Thy flock.

Let Thy grace be poured out on the British Empire and its Colonies, that Thy name may be greatly glorified amongst us. Abundantly bless our Queen, the Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family, together with all who are invested with lawful authority; that they may be enabled to honour and exalt Thee in the stations which Thy providence hath assigned to them.

Extend Thy pity unto all afflicted persons, who are visited with poverty or sickness, or any other distress, whether of body or of mind. Grant them constancy and patience under all their trials, and send them, in Thy good time, a happy deliverance out of all their afflictions.

Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly, above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end.—Amen.

Then let a Psalm or Paraphrase be sung.

BLESSING.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all.—Amen.

FOURTH MORNING SERVICE.

The Service may begin with singing a Psalm.

Let us pray.

O LORD our God, who art greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about Thee, incline Thine ear to the voice of our supplications, and give us grace that we may serve Thee acceptably, with reverence and godly fear.

Holy, holy, holy art Thou, Lord God of Hosts; the whole earth is full of Thy glory. Thou hast prepared Thy throne in the heavens, and Thy kingdom ruleth over all. Thou dost according to Thy will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay Thy hand, or say unto Thee, What doest Thou? All Thy works shall praise Thee, O Lord, and Thy saints shall bless Thee. They that know Thy name will put their trust in Thee; for Thou hast not forsaken them that seek Thee.

Who is like unto Thee, O Lord our God, who dwellest on high, but humblest Thyself to behold the things that are in heaven and in the earth! Thou lookest down from the height of Thy sanctuary, to hear the groaning of the prisoner, and to loose them that are appointed unto death. We are poor and needy, yet the Lord thinketh upon us. Iniquities prevail against us, but as for our transgressions Thou shalt purge them away.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Creator of all things, Judge of all men! We acknowledge and lament in Thy sight that we are miserable sinners, conceived and born in iniquity. We are prone to evil, but to do good we have no knowledge. We have broken Thy holy law, times and ways without number, by contempt of Thee and of Thy Word; by distrust of Thy grace and vain confidence in ourselves; by walking after the course of this world, and fulfilling the desires of our own wicked hearts; by manifold thoughts, words, and works, most grievously offensive to Thy holy Majesty, and hurtful both to ourselves and to our brethren. Behold, we are vile; what shall we answer Thee? We cannot answer Thee for one sin of a thousand.

O heavenly Father, we heartily condemn ourselves for these our misdeeds committed against Thee. And most humbly do we beseech Thee, for the sake of Jesus Christ our only Mediator, to show Thy mercy upon us, and to forgive all our offences. Be pleased

also to increase in us the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that, acknowledging from the heart our own unrighteousness, we may henceforth not only mortify our sinful affections, but also bring forth such good fruits as may be agreeable to Thy most blessed will.

Not for our own worthiness, O God, do we plead with Thee; but for the merits of Thy dearly beloved Son, whom thou hast given as an offering for our sins. May it please Thee to increase our faith in Him, and to fill us with all joy and peace in believing. And may Thy Spirit assure our consciences, that Thou art in Him our reconciled Father, who so lovest us as Thy children for His sake, that nothing is able to remove Thy heavenly grace and favour from us.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast redeemed us to Thyself with the precious blood of Thy Son Jesus Christ, grant that we, being bought with such a price, may no longer live as if we were our own; but, consecrating ourselves entirely unto Thee, may render a cheerful obedience to Thy commandments, and be ever ready to suffer the loss of all things, rather than turn aside from Thy service. Teach us at all times in faith to look up to Thee, committing ourselves to Thy fatherly care, that Thy Spirit may guide and rule us to the end. And do Thou ever uphold and defend us, until, having glorified Thee upon the earth, and finished the work Thou hast given us to do, we shall finally obtain an inheritance in Thy heavenly kingdom,

through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and our Lord; to whom, with Thee, O Father, and with the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, both now and for ever.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

PSALM LXXXVI.

BOW down Thine ear, O Lord, hear me: for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my soul; for I am holy: O Thou my God, save Thy servant that trusteth in Thee.

Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto Thee daily.

Rejoice the soul of Thy servant: for unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

For Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee.

Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications.

In the day of my trouble I will call upon Thee: for Thou wilt answer me.

Among the gods there is none like unto Thee, O Lord; neither are there any works like unto Thy works.

All nations whom Thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.

For Thou art great, and doest wondrous things: Thou art God alone.

Teach me Thy way, O Lord; I will walk in Thy truth: unite my heart to fear Thy name.

I will praise Thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify Thy name for evermore.

For great is Thy mercy toward me: and Thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

O God, the proud are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent men have sought after my soul, and have not set Thee before them.

But Thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, long-suffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me; give Thy strength unto Thy servant, and save the son of Thine handmaid.

Show me a token for good; that they which hate me may see it, and be ashamed: because Thou, Lord, hast holpen me, and comforted me.

Then may be read a portion first of the Old, and afterwards of the New Testament, a Psalm being sung between the two portions.

Let us pray.

FATHER of Mercies and God of all consolation, it becometh us, with all Thy creatures, at all times to reverence and magnify Thy Holy Majesty, acknowledging Thee as Governor and Lord.

We adore Thee, that Thou didst at first create us after Thine own image, but chiefly that Thou hast delivered us from that everlasting death and condemnation, into which we had fallen by sin, and from the bondage of which neither man nor angel was able to set us free. O Lord, we praise Thee that, rich in mercy and infinite in goodness, Thou hast provided our redemption to stand in Thine only and well-beloved Son; whom of very love Thou didst give to be made man, like unto us in all things, yet without sin; that in His body He might receive the punishment of our transgressions; that by His death He might make satisfaction to Thy justice, and destroy him who was the author of death; and that by His resurrection He might bring to the world again that immortal life, from which the whole offspring of Adam were most justly exiled.

O Lord, we acknowledge that no creature is able to comprehend the length and breadth, the depth and height of that most excellent love of Thine, which moved Thee to show mercy where none was deserved; to promise and give life where death had gotten the victory; and to receive us again into Thy favour, when we could of ourselves do nothing but rebel

against Thy justice. These most inestimable benefits, with all the other blessings we enjoy, we acknowledge ourselves to have received of Thy free grace and mercy in Christ Jesus, for which therefore we, Thy congregation, moved by Thy Holy Spirit, would render to Thee thanks, and praise, and glory, for ever and ever. Suffer us not, O Father, at any time to be forgetful of Thy tender mercies; but rather do Thou imprint and fasten them so surely in our hearts, that we may grow daily in that true faith, which is continually exercised in all manner of good works.

Confirm us, O Lord, that we may ever stand immovable in our fidelity to Thee, the God of our salvation. Let Thy mighty and outstretched arm be still our defence; Thy mercy and loving-kindness in Jesus Christ our salvation; Thy true and holy Word our instruction; Thy grace and Holy Spirit our consolation, unto the end and in the end. Building ourselves up on our most holy faith, and praying in the Holy Ghost, may we keep ourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Now blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things; and blessed be His glorious name for ever; and let the whole earth be filled with His glory.—Amen and Amen.

Here may be introduced any special Petitions or Thanksgivings that may be thought seasonable, whether extemporaneous or from the *Occasional Prayers*.

Then, after singing a Psalm, may follow a Sermon; or, if there be no Sermon, one or other of our Lord's discourses, or other large portions of Holy Scripture.

Let us pray.

MOST gracious God, by whose inspiration all Holy Scripture hath been written, grant that Thy Word may be profitable to us, for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, so as to make us wise unto salvation, and thoroughly furnished unto all good works. We confess that we have been unprofitable hearers in time past, and that even now we cannot of ourselves receive, as we ought, the deep things of the Spirit of God. Wherefore, we pray that Thou wouldst enlighten us, and cause us to attain such a measure of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, and in Him of the things which belong unto our peace, that we may account all else worthless in comparison; and that, tasting the first fruits of the glory to be revealed, we may long for a more perfect communion with Him; so as to partake of the fulness of those joys which are at Thy right hand for evermore.

O LORD our God, who hast taught us to offer prayers and supplications for all men, we make our requests to Thee, not only for ourselves, but also for all classes and conditions of the human race.

We pray for the spreading of the Gospel among all nations; for the conversion of the Jews; the enlightenment of the Gentiles; the downfall of all error, idolatry, and superstition; and the speedy and universal prevalence of the Saviour's kingdom.

We implore Thy blessing on all the Reformed Churches, especially on those which are established in our own land; that truth and godliness may flourish in them more and more; that all their divisions may be healed; and that their members, united in the bond of charity, may dwell together as brethren in peace.

Look down with favour, we beseech Thee, on the British Empire, with all the Colonies and plantations that belong to it. [Bless more especially that Colony in which we dwell.] Promote all its interests, both civil and religious. And grant that the manifold privileges we enjoy may continue unimpaired to the latest generations.

We pray for all who are in authority, especially for the Queen's Majesty, that Thou wouldst enrich her with all heavenly blessings, protecting her person, prospering her government, and making her an honoured instrument in Thy hand for the conservation and diffusion of Thy truth.

We pray also for the Prince Consort, Albert Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family, that they may be enabled to adorn their exalted station with all the virtues of a godly and religious life.

Grant, we beseech Thee, that our Senators and Councillors, the Lords of the Nobility, the Magistrates and Judges, may use the authority and influence which Thou hast given them, so as to advance Thy glory and the public good; and that the whole of the community who are under them may lead quiet and peaceable lives in godliness and honesty.

[Bless Thy servant, the Governor of this Colony. Encompass him with Thy favour as with a shield; and give him Thy grace to aid him in the faithful discharge of that high office with which he is intrusted.]

We commend our Army and Navy to Thy protection, beseeching Thee to support them in all their hardships, and to grant them defence and deliverance in all their perils.

We pray for all Pastors and Ministers of Thy Word, that Thou wouldst be pleased to fill them with Thy Spirit. Make them to be holy, just, sober, peaceable, and gracious in their lives; sound, faithful, and powerful in their Ministry; and follow all their labours with abundance of success and blessing.

We pray for all Universities and Schools, that they may flourish more and more in learning and in piety; that the Teachers may be wise, earnest, and successful; and that the youth intrusted to their care may be trained up, not only for usefulness in this life, but for glory, honour, and immortality in the life to come.

Father of Mercies, we earnestly commend to Thee our brethren who are in anywise distressed. Deliver all those who are exposed to danger by sea or land. Heal the sick. Comfort the sorrowful. Provide for the destitute. Protect and befriend the helpless. Be a Father to the orphan, and a Husband to the widow. Dry up the tears of the bereaved. Support the dying, and prepare them for their change.

Prepare us all, O God, we beseech Thee, for death, and judgment, and eternity. Let our loins be ever girt, and our lights burning, and our souls watching for the coming of our Lord.

Be pleased to pardon the iniquity of our holy things. And grant that all our endeavours in Thy service may meet with Thy gracious approbation and acceptance, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

Then may be sung a Psalm or Paraphrase.

BLESSING.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all.—Amen.

FOURTH EVENING SERVICE.

The Service may begin with singing a Psalm.

Let us pray.

O THOU that dwellest in the heavens, unto Thee we lift up our souls. In all humility and reverence we acknowledge Thine incomprehensible greatness and majesty. For there is none like unto Thee, neither are there any works like unto Thy works. All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, and shall glorify thy name; for Thou art great, and doest wondrous things; Thou art God alone.

We feel, O Lord, not only our insignificance, but also our great unworthiness in Thy sight; and we confess our utter inability to render of ourselves any acceptable worship. But yet we are encouraged to approach Thee through the mediation of Thy beloved Son; and for His sake we earnestly beseech Thee to grant us Thy pardon, to aid us with Thy grace, and favourably to regard our endeavours in Thy service.

FATHER, we have sinned against heaven and in Thy sight, and are no more worthy to be called Thy children. We deeply lament our past unthankfulness towards Thee. We acknowledge that besides those benefits of Thine, which we enjoy in common with all men as Thy creatures, Thou hast bestowed upon us many special blessings, of which we are not able to express or to conceive the value. Thou hast called us to the knowledge of Thy Gospel; Thou hast released us from the hard servitude of Satan; Thou hast delivered us from the dominion of darkness, and hast brought us into the clear and comfortable light of Thy blessed Word; Thou hast so loved us, as to give Thine own Son to be the propitiation for our sins; and by his resurrection from the dead hast raised us to the hope of an inheritance in Thy heavenly kingdom. But we, most ungrateful for these Thy great benefits, have neglected thy holy commandments, have misimproved the knowledge of Thy truth, have followed our own evil desires, and by our sinful lives have dishonoured and displeased Thee.

Holy Father, we beseech Thee to impress us more and more with a sense of our sinfulness, and to lead us to that remedy which Thou hast Thyself provided, that we, being thoroughly cleansed from all iniquity, may serve thee as a peculiar people, zealous of good works. Remember not against us former transgressions; remember Thy loving-kindnesses, which have been of old. And as Thou wast ever merciful to Thy

people Israel, as often as they in penitence returned to Thee, for Thy covenant's sake which Thou hadst made with their fathers, so do Thou show the like mercy unto us, with whom Thou hast made a better covenant, confirmed and sealed with the blood of Thy beloved Son. Cast us not away from Thy presence, O Lord; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from us. Look not on the sins which we continually commit, but on our mediator and peace-maker Jesus Christ; that by His intercession Thy just anger may be turned away, and that we by Thy fatherly countenance may be relieved and comforted.

May it please Thee also to take us henceforth under Thy heavenly guidance and protection. Teach us in all our ways to acknowledge Thee, that Thou mayest direct our paths. In whatsoever state Thy providence hath placed us, may we be enabled to walk with Thee in newness of life, constantly trusting in Thy fatherly care; seeking at all times to be instructed by Thy wisdom; and earnestly striving that not only in our outward deeds, but in our inward thoughts and affections, we may be entirely devoted to Thy service.

Grant also, O Lord, that thus walking in Thy fear, we may be daily supplied, through Thy goodness, with all things which thou knowest to be expedient for us. And seeing Thy care of us, let us be the more disposed to acknowledge Thee as our loving Father, and withdrawing all vain confidence from the creature, to place our trust only in Thy most bounti-

ful mercy, and to look for all good things from Thee alone.

We thank Thee that Thou art inviting us at this time to hear Thy Word, and to join together in Thy service; and we pray that Thou wouldst enable us to give earnest head to the truths which Thou hast revealed for our salvation, and to persevere in that obedience which Thou requirest, until, all our works in this life being ended, we come to the rest which remaineth for Thy people in heaven.

Give ear, O God, to the voice of our supplications, for the sake of Thy beloved son, our strength and our Redeemer.—Amen.

PSALM CIII.

BLESS the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies;

Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

He made known His ways unto Moses, His acts unto the children of Israel.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

He will not always chide; neither will He keep His anger for ever.

He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us.

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him.

For He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust.

As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth:

For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him, and His righteousness unto children's children;

To such as keep His covenant, and to those that remember His commandments to do them.

The Lord hath prepared His throne in the heavens; and His kingdom ruleth over all.

Bless the Lord, ye His angels, that excel in strength, that do His commandments, hearkening unto the voice of His word.

Bless ye the Lord, all ye His hosts; ye ministers of His, that do His pleasure.

Bless the Lord, all His works in all places of His dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.

Then may be read a portion first of the Old, and afterwards of the New Testament, a Psalm being sung between the two portions.

Let us pray.

FATHER of Mercies, we lift up our souls to Thee in humble and hearty acknowledgment of Thy goodness. We thank Thee for our creation, our preservation, and for all our temporal comforts and enjoyments; but above all for our spiritual mercies; for the unspeakable gift of Thy beloved Son, the gracious communications of Thy Holy Spirit, the light and liberty of Thy glorious Gospel, and the rich and heavenly blessings revealed therein. And we pray that Thou wouldst enable us by Thy grace to walk worthy of the privileges we have received, and of the benefits which in Thy love Thou hast conferred on us.

Almighty God, who, according to Thy divine power hast given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who hath called us to glory and virtue; grant, that by those exceeding great and precious promises which Thou hast given us, we may be partakers of a divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world. Give us grace, also, that using all diligence, we may add to our faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and

to knowledge temperance, and to temperance patience, and to patience godliness, and to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness charity; that through these things abounding in us, we may be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Continue to us, we beseech Thee, Thy blessed Gospel, with all its ordinances, in their purity and power. Dispose us to receive with meekness the engrafted Word, which is able to save our souls. Cause it to abide in our hearts, and to bring forth in our lives the peaceable fruits of righteousness.

Hear us, O God, and favourably regard us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, in whose words we yet further pray, saying—

"Our Father which art in heaven," &c.

Here may be introduced any special Petitions or Thanksgivings that may be thought seasonable, whether extemporaneous or from the *Occasional Prayers*.

Then, after singing a Psalm, may follow a Sermon; or, if there be no Sermon, one or other of our Lord's discourses, or other large portions of Holy Scripture.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast so clearly revealed to us Thy will, that there remaineth no excuse for ignorance, teach us to submit to Thee with a cheerful and willing mind. May we not only incline our ears, but our hearts to Thee, seeking above all things Thy favour and approval. We confess that

we are ever prone to turn aside, through our obstinacy and wickedness, from the right way; and we pray that Thou wouldst enlighten and direct us, so that we may embrace and hold fast whatsoever Thou hast prescribed to us in Thy Word; until, having finished our course in this life, we obtain that everlasting inheritance, which Thou hast prepared for those that love Thee.

NEITHER do we ask these benefits for ourselves only, but also for all our brethren of mankind. Be pleased to make known the way of salvation to all who are yet in ignorance or error, and to hasten the time when the lost sheep of the house of Israel, together with the fulness of the Gentiles, shall be brought into the fold of the great Shepherd and Bishop of souls.

Bless the whole Church of Christ throughout the world. Remove from it all those heresies and divisions whereby it is weakened and disturbed. And raise up faithful ministers of Thy Word, whose labours shall by Thy blessing be subservient to the conversion of sinners from the evil of their ways, and to the edification and comfort of Thy people.

We pray more especially for the Church of our fathers, that Thou wouldst establish and purify it more and more, and make it an honoured instrument in Thy hands for advancing everywhere the cause of truth and godliness.

Rule with Thy Spirit all Kings and Governors, especially our gracious Sovereign, Queen Victoria,

and those who under her bear authority amongst us, that their dominion may be exercised in all justice and rectitude. May we also, who are under them, pay them due honour and reverence, and lead peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty.

We pray for the British Empire and all its Colonies [more especially for that Colony in which we dwell]; that it may please Thee to continue unimpaired our inestimable privileges; to increase our trade; to bless our husbandry; to preserve our peace; to defend our liberties; above all, to diffuse among us more and more the knowledge and practice of pure and undefiled religion, and to make us distinguished for that righteousness which exalteth a nation.

We pray for our friends, that Thou wouldst befriend them; for our benefactors, that Thou wouldst reward them; for our enemies, that Thou wouldst forgive them, and enable us to forgive them from the heart.

We commend to Thine Almighty guardianship, all who are exposed to danger by sea or land, beseeching Thee to deliver them from such perils as may surround them, and to conduct them in safety to their destination.

Be pleased to comfort all whom Thou hast visited with any kind of tribulation or distress; the poor, the sick, the sorrowful, and the dying. Grant them continued patience, and meek submission to Thy holy will; and cause all the dispensations of Thy providence to work together for their everlasting welfare.

Prepare us, O God, for every event that may befall

us. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Seeing that the time is short, may we be disposed to weep as though we wept not, to rejoice as though we rejoiced not, to buy as though we possessed not, and to use this world as not abusing it, because the fashion of this world passeth away. O satisfy us early with Thy mercy, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Guide us by Thy counsel while we live, and afterwards receive us into glory.

And now, Lord, what wait we for? our hope is in Thee. Be pleased to accept our worship; to forgive our sins; and to grant us, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, whatsoever good things we have asked of Thee in His name.

God of all grace, who hast called us unto Thine eternal glory by Christ Jesus; after that we have suffered awhile, make us perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle us; that God in all things may be glorified, through Jesus Christ; to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever.—Amen.

Then let a Psalm or Paraphrase be sung.

BLESSING.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all.—Amen.

FIFTH MORNING SERVICE.

The Service may begin with singing a Psalm.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, heaven is Thy throne, and earth is Thy footstool; holy and reverend is Thy name. We are unworthy that Thou shouldst regard us; but through our blessed Mediator we are encouraged to present ourselves and our supplications before Thee. Be pleased to receive us graciously for His sake. Let Thy fear be upon us. Let Thy Spirit be helpful to us. Let Thy Word come to us in power, and be received in love. Cause us to be fervent in prayer, and joyful in Thy praises. And enable us to serve Thee without distraction, that we may find it good for us to draw near unto Thee.

HOLY FATHER, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, but hast promised mercy, through Thy beloved Son, unto all that truly repent and believe in Him; we confess before Thee that we all have

sinned, and come short of Thy glory. We have broken Thy laws, which are holy, and just, and good. We have been unthankful for Thy benefits. We have slighted the calls and offers of Thy grace. We have loved the creature more than the Creator; and have cared and laboured for the meat that perisheth, more than for that which endureth unto eternal life. We have dealt unjustly and uncharitably with our neighbours, not loving them as ourselves, or doing to them as we would that they should do to us. We have run into temptation; and the sins, which we ought to have hated, we have oftentimes committed in thy sight, both secretly and openly, ignorantly and knowingly, rashly and presumptuously, against Thy promises and Thy threatenings, Thy mercies and Thy judgments. Verily our transgressions are multiplied before Thee; our sins testify against us; and shouldst Thou deal with us as we deserve, Thou mightest justly cast us away from Thy presence for ever.

But unto Thee, O Lord, belong mercies and forgivenesses, although we have rebelled against Thee. Thou hast said, that if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, and that He is the propitiation for our sins. For His sake, O God, be merciful to our unrighteousness, and remember our iniquities no more.

Take us also for Thy children, we beseech Thee, and give unto us the Spirit of Thy Son. Enlighten the eyes of our understanding, that we may know the

wonderful things of Thy law, the exceeding greatness of Thy love in Christ, and the glorious riches of Thine inheritance in the saints; and that we may approve things that are excellent, and hate every false way. Mortify all our earthly inclinations, and teach us to have our conversation in heaven. Cause us to love one another with a pure heart, and to love Thee, our God and Saviour, above all. Help us to deny ourselves, and to take up our cross and follow Christ, esteeming His reproach greater riches than the treasures of the world, and cheerfully suffering with Him, that we may also be glorified with Him. Enable us to watch against temptation, and by Thy grace to resist and overcome it; that, being faithful unto death, we may obtain a crown of life.

Give ear, we pray Thee, to these our humble petitions, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son, our Lord and only Saviour.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

PSALM CXXXIX.

O LORD, Thou hast searched me, and known me.

Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, Thou understandest my thought afar off.

Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.

For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, Thou knowest it altogether.

Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid Thine hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it.

Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit? or whither shall I flee from Thy presence?

If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, Thou art there.

If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

Even there shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me.

If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.

Yea, the darkness hideth not from Thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee.

For Thou hast possessed my reins: Thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.

I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonder-

fully made: marvellous are Thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

My substance was not hid from Thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in Thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

How precious also are Thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!

If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with Thee.

Surely Thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men.

For they speak against Thee wickedly, and Thine enemies take Thy name in vain.

Do not I hate them, O Lord, that hate Thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against Thee?

I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies.

Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts;

And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Then may be read a portion first of the Old, and afterwards of the New Testament, a Psalm being sung between the two portions.

Let us pray.

MOST glorious and ever-blessed Jehovah, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, while angels and perfected spirits are adoring Thee in heaven, we rejoice that Thou hast permitted and commanded us to celebrate Thy praises upon earth.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who art, and wast, and art to come, Thou art worthy to receive glory, and honour, and power; for of Thee, and through Thee, and to Thee, are all things.

All Thy works declare Thy praise. The heavens and all the hosts thereof, the earth and sea, and all that dwell therein, proclaim Thy power, Thy wisdom, and Thy goodness, by which they were at first created, and are constantly maintained in harmony and beauty.

We worship Thee, our great Benefactor. For in Thee we live, and move, and have our being. All that we are, all that we have, all that we can do, all that we hope for, is wholly from Thee, the Source of all good.

Above all we magnify Thy name, for having so loved the world as to give Thine only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. We thank Thee that He took upon Him our nature, fulfilled Thy law, and suffered for our sins; that, conquering death, He rose again from the tomb, and ascended to the right

hand of the Majesty in the heavens; that there He ever liveth, as our glorified Head and Intercessor; and that, through Him, Thou hast given to every penitent believer pardon, and reconciliation, and adoption, and the hope of a glorious inheritance in Thy kingdom.

Glory be to Thee, O God, in the highest, on earth peace, and good-will to men! Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing; for He was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by his blood, out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hath made us unto our God kings and priests! Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power be unto Him who sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever!

O God of our salvation! enable us to praise Thee with fervent and joyful souls. And to this end enlighten our darkness; increase our faith; remove our estrangement from Thee; give us more taste and feeling of Thy love; and subdue our evil passions and affections, the foes of our peace and of Thy praise. Make us more holy and more heavenly. Bring us in faith and love nearer to Thyself. Prepare us for that better world, where the praises of Thy people shall never be interrupted by sins, or griefs, or fears, or discords; but shall be everlastingly perfect, to our joy and Thy glory.

We thank Thee for the light of Thy word, the rest of Thy day, the comfort of Thine ordinances; and

we pray that, by Thy blessing on our use of them, our love and praise may more and more abound, and that our whole lives may be devoted to Thy service.

Hear us, O God, and graciously accept of us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son; to whom, with Thee and with the Holy Spirit, be all honour and blessing, world without end.—Amen.

Here may be introduced any special Petitions or Thanksgivings that may be thought seasonable, whether extemporaneous or from the *Occasional Prayers*.

Then, after singing a Psalm, may follow a Sermon; or, if there be no Sermon, one or other of our Lord's discourses, or other large portions of Holy Scripture.

Let us pray.

MOST holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity; Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier; again do we beseech Thee to hear us, and to have mercy upon us.

Impress upon our minds the doctrine of Thy Word. Teach us to understand it, to receive it, to delight in it, to meditate on it day and night, to order our walk and conversation in accordance with it. Let Thy Holy Spirit dwell in our hearts, to witness with our spirits that we are Thy children, to sanctify us wholly, to fit us for Thy service, and to prepare us for inheriting Thy glorious kingdom. Put Thy fear into us; write Thy law within us; make Thy grace at all times sufficient for us; cause us to love Thee,

to trust in Thee, to cleave to Thee, and, whatsoever we do, to do it to Thy glory.

O GOD, who hast made of one blood all nations, and wouldst have all men to come to the knowledge of the truth, let Thy Word everywhere have free course and be glorified. Let Jews, Mohammedans, idolaters, and all other unbelieving or ungodly people, be converted; and let the kingdoms of this world soon be the kingdoms of the Lord and of His Christ. Send forth well-qualified labourers into Thy harvest; preserve and aid them in their work; and crown their labours with abundance of success and blessing.

We pray for Thy Church universal throughout the world, and especially for that portion of it with which we are connected. Unite all Christians in Christ, their only Head; correct all their errors; heal all their divisions; and dispose them to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Give to all the congregations of Thy people able, holy, and faithful pastors, who shall soundly and diligently preach Thy Word, and guide Thy flock in the ways of righteousness and peace.

We pray for the British Empire, with all its Colonies [especially for that Colony in which our lot is cast]. Preserve to us, O God, our liberties and privileges; teach us to value them, help us to improve them, and enable us by Thy grace to walk worthy of them.

Bestow Thy blessing on our gracious Sovereign, Queen Victoria. Protect her person, prosper her government, grant her in health and happiness long to live, and at last bestow upon her a crown of unfading glory.

Regard with Thy favour the Prince Consort, Albert Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family, and enable them to adorn their high station with all the graces and virtues of the Christian life.

Guide with Thy wisdom the Councils of the Nation, and give to all our Magistrates and Judges [especially to Thy servant who rules over us in the Queen's name] the spirit of their station, that they may execute their offices so as to advance Thy glory and the public good.

We pray for the British Army and Navy, that they may be distinguished by loyalty and valour, and still more by rectitude, temperance, and godliness; and that they may, under Thy providence, be instrumental in preserving our peace and defending our liberties.

Help us, we beseech Thee, in the discharge of all our relative duties, as parents or children, husbands or wives, masters or servants, rulers or subjects. In whatsoever calling we are called, enable us therein faithfully to abide with Thee; and whatsoever we do, teach us to do it heartily, not with eye-service, as pleasing men, but with singleness of heart, as unto Thee.

Father of Mercies, have pity on those who are visited with any kind of trouble or affliction. We commend to Thy goodness the widow, the orphan, the poor, the stranger, and the friendless; all who are in peril by land or by water; all who are in sickness or sorrow; all who are drawing near unto death. Comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities, and sanctify all the dispensations of Thy providence to their everlasting welfare.

Giver of all good, we look up to Thee for the supply of all our daily returning wants. Bestow upon us needful sustenance and contentment therewith. Send unto us favourable weather and fruitful seasons. Abundantly bless our provision, and satisfy our poor with bread.

God of all grace, deliver us from evil. Preserve us from unbelief, presumption, and carnal security; from pride and vain-glory; from envy and discontent; from malice and uncharitableness; from worldliness and sensuality; from covetousness, impurity, intemperance, and ungodliness. Save us from the temptations both of prosperity and of adversity. Teach us to set our affection on things above, and not on things on the earth. Cause us to grow in knowledge and in grace. Keep us by Thy power through faith unto salvation.

We ask all this of Thee, O Lord, in our Redeemer's name; for Thou art able, and hast promised for His sake to give whatsoever good things we may ask of

Thee. Thou only art the universal King; all power is Thine in heaven and on earth. Of Thee, and through Thee, and to Thee, are all things; and the glory shall be Thine for ever and ever.—Amen.

Then may be sung a Psalm or Paraphrase.

BLESSING.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all.—Amen.

FIFTH EVENING SERVICE.

The Service may begin with singing a Psalm.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who inhabitest eternity, but dwellest also with the humble and contrite spirit, and takest pleasure in Thy people; we come at Thy call to worship at Thy footstool. Despise us not, though unworthy, but graciously receive us for the sake of Thy beloved Son. Put Thy fear within us, that with reverence we may serve Thee. Let Thy Word be heard by us with understanding and believing minds; and pour out upon us a spirit of grace and supplication, that the words of our mouth, and the meditation of our heart, may be acceptable in Thy sight, O God, our strength and our Redeemer.

We worship Thee as the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hast immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach. Justice and judgment are the

habitation of Thy throne; mercy and truth go before Thy face. Thy dominion is an everlasting dominion, and Thy kingdom is from generation to generation.

Wherewith shall we come before the Lord, or bow ourselves before the High God? We are ashamed, and blush to lift up our faces unto Thee, O our God; for our hearts are corrupt; our eyes have gone after vanity; our ears have hearkened unto folly; our mouths have spoken deceit; our hands have done iniquity; and with our whole body and spirit we have dishonoured Thee, whom we were called to glorify. O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto Thee, but unto us confusion of face, because of our trespasses which we have trespassed against Thee.

For Thy name's sake, O Lord, pardon our iniquity, for it is great. Look not upon us with the eye of justice, neither draw out against us the sword of judgment. For how shall we, that are but dust, stand in Thy presence, when Thy wrathful indignation cometh forth as a whirlwind, and Thy heavy displeasure as a mighty tempest? Behold, the earth trembleth, the depths are discovered, and the very heavens are shaken when Thou art angry.

Wherefore, O God, we appeal unto Thy mercy, and humbly beseech Thee to extend towards us that forgiveness which Thy beloved Son hath purchased so graciously and so dearly for us with His most precious blood. For His sake be merciful to our unrighteousness, and remember our iniquities no more. And

forasmuch as without Thy grace we are not able to do any good thing, work in us, we beseech Thee, by Thy Holy Spirit, both to will and to do of Thy good pleasure. Enlighten our minds; renew our wills; purify our affections. Perfect that which is lacking in our faith. Make us to increase and abound more and more in love to Thee and in charity towards our brethren. Teach us to esteem all Thy precepts concerning all things to be right. And whether we eat or drink, or whatsoever we do, enable us to do all to Thy glory.

Father of Mercies, and God of all grace, who hast called us unto Thine eternal glory by Christ Jesus, help us to walk worthy of our calling by seeking those things which are above, where Christ sitteth at Thy right hand. Make us not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises. And whatsoever our hand findeth, teach us to do it with all our might, remembering the time when we shall sleep in the grave, and the day when we shall awake to judgment.

Be pleased to bless and sanctify our present meeting, that no temptation may hinder us from profiting by Thy blessed Word, but that we may read and hear it as the Word of God, which is able to make us wise unto salvation.

O Lord, we are unworthy to pray unto Thee, and more unworthy to receive the things we pray for. But we commend our prayers and ourselves to Thee, in the name of Thy beloved Son; unto whom, with

Thee and with the Holy Ghost, be all honour and praise, for ever and ever.—Amen.

PSALM CXLV.

I WILL extol Thee, my God, O King; and I will bless Thy name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless Thee; and I will praise Thy name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall praise Thy works to another, and shall declare Thy mighty acts.

I will speak of the glorious honour of Thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works.

And men shall speak of the might of Thy terrible acts: and I will declare Thy greatness.

They shall abundantly utter the memory of Thy great goodness, and shall sing of Thy righteousness.

The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

The Lord is good to all: and His tender mercies are over all His works.

All Thy works shall praise Thee, O Lord; and Thy saints shall bless Thee.

They shall speak of the glory of Thy kingdom, and talk of Thy power;

To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of His kingdom.

Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.

The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down.

The eyes of all wait upon Thee; and Thou givest them their meat in due season.

Thou openest Thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.

The Lord is righteous in all His ways, and holy in all His works.

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in truth.

He will fulfil the desire of them that fear Him: He also will hear their cry, and will save them.

The Lord preserveth all them that love Him: but all the wicked will He destroy.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord: and let all flesh bless His holy name for ever and ever.

Then may be read a portion first of the Old, and afterwards of the New Testament, a Psalm being sung between the two portions.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift; we yield Thee praise and thanks for all Thy mercies.

Thou hast heaped them upon us even from our birth, as though we had always done Thy will; and yet we have been so occupied with vain things, that

we have never loved, or served, or thanked Thee so heartily for them, as we ought to have done.

What shall we render to Thee, O God, for all Thy benefits? Thy goodness hath created us; Thy bounty hath sustained us; Thy fatherly discipline hath chastened and corrected us; Thy patience hath borne with us; Thy love hath redeemed us. Verily, we are not worthy of the least of Thy mercies. Justly mightest Thou forsake us, as we have forsaken Thee; and condemn us, whose conscience condemns ourselves. But who can measure Thy goodness, who givest all, and forgivest all!

O Lord, open Thou our lips, and our mouths shall show forth Thy praise. Give us a heart to love and serve Thee. And enable us to show our thankfulness for all the goodness and mercy Thou hast conferred, by giving up ourselves to Thy service, and cheerfully submitting in all things to Thy blessed will.

Continue to us, we beseech Thee, Thy loving-kindness, that we may rejoice and be glad in Thee all our days. Supply all our need according to Thy glorious riches; and make all grace to be multiplied towards us, that we always, having sufficiency in all things, may abound unto every good work. Teach us also to be careful for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, to make our requests known unto Thee; that the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, may keep our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Hear us, O God, for the sake of Thy beloved Son,

in whose name we lift up our hearts and hands unto Thee, praying, as He taught us—

"Our Father which art in heaven," &c.

Here may be introduced any special Petitions or Thanksgivings that may be thought seasonable, whether extemporaneous or from the *Occasional Prayers*.

Then, after singing a Psalm, may follow a Sermon; or, if there be no Sermon, one or other of our Lord's discourses, or other large portions of Holy Scripture.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who by Thy merciful providence defendest all those that put their trust in Thee; we sinners, unworthy of the least of Thy favours, do yet presume, in the name of Jesus Christ, again to present ourselves before Thee, and to offer up our humble sacrifice of prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving.

We bless Thee that Thou hast sustained us by Thy power, and hast guided and governed us by Thy Word and Spirit. We more especially thank Thee, O God, for that mercy which hath this day accompanied us, whereby we have both been kept back from many sins, to which the wickedness of our nature was inclined, and also delivered from many punishments which our sins deserved.

And now, O Father, we most humbly beseech Thee, for the merits of Jesus Christ, to pardon all our sins, which, either in thought, word, or deed, we have heretofore committed against Thee; and to give us

grace whereby we may be enabled to abstain from all appearance of evil, and to do only that which is pleasing in Thy sight. Impress upon us the doctrine of Thy holy Word. Cause it to dwell in us richly, in all wisdom, that we may be no longer children in understanding, but may grow to the stature of perfect men in Christ Jesus, and be prepared for every good word and work.

LORD, we are unworthy to ask anything for ourselves; yet in Thy favour Thou hast honoured us to be petitioners even for others. Wherefore, we beseech Thee, hear us for them, and them for us, and Thy Son for all.

Bless the Universal Church, and, more especially, the Church of our fathers. Look down in the multitude of Thy compassions on the nations who sit in darkness, and bring them into Thy marvellous light.

Strengthen all who suffer, and give to them Thy Spirit of comfort. Provide for the poor; protect the helpless; heal the sick; support and prepare the dying.

Have mercy on the land in which we dwell. Let not Thy blessings rise up to condemn us. But endue us with grace, that we may use them for Thy glory.

Be very gracious to our Sovereign the Queen. Enrich her with Thy blessing; sanctify her by Thy grace; preserve her in health and prosperity long to reign; and finally bestow upon her a crown of unfading glory.

Regard with Thy favour the Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family. Plentifully bestow upon them the bounties of Thy providence, and greatly enrich them with the treasures of Thy grace.

Give unto our counsellors the spirit of counsel; unto our judges the spirit of judgment; unto our ministers the spirit of doctrine; unto our people the spirit of obedience; and unto every man a spirit suited to his calling; that all of us, being mindful of the account which we must render, may faithfully serve Thee in the stations Thou hast allotted to us.

And now, O God, we commend ourselves to Thee, and to the word of Thy grace, which is able to build us up, and to give us an inheritance among all them that are sanctified. Favourably hear our humble supplications, which we offer in the name of Thy beloved Son, and do for us exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think.

Now, unto Him who loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests to God and His Father; to Him be glory and dominion, for ever and ever.—Amen.

Then may be sung a Psalm or Paraphrase.

BLESSING.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all.—Amen.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP.

"I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord."—GENESIS, xviii. 19.

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."—JOSHUA, xxiv. 15.

"Then David returned to bless his household."—2 SAMUEL, vi. 20.

Of the PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES the following may, with the omission of a very few sentences, be substituted for the opening Prayer in any of the FORMS OF SOCIAL WORSHIP — viz.:

First Week .....Prayer for Lord's Day Morning.
Prayer for Monday Evening.
Prayer for Thursday Morning.
Second Week .....Prayer for Lord's Day Morning.
Prayer for Thursday Morning.
Sacramental Prayers....Prayer for a Fast Day Morning.

The following may in like manner be substituted for the concluding Prayers in the FORMS OF SOCIAL WORSHIP — viz.:

First Week .....Prayer for Lord's Day Evening.
Second Week .....Prayer for Lord's Day Evening.
Prayer for Wednesday Morning.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP.

INTRODUCTORY PRAYERS.

One of these short Introductory Prayers may be used at the commencement of Family Worship, before the reading of a portion of Holy Scripture, after which may be used the longer Prayers.

I.

O GOD, who hast promised to be present with Thy people, and to grant their requests for whatsoever things they may ask of Thee in the name of Thy beloved Son, regard us, we beseech Thee, with Thy favour, and graciously fulfil Thy promise in our behalf; that, offering up our desires unto Thee for things agreeable to Thy most blessed will, we may obtain the petitions that we ask of Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

II.

O LORD our God, who art graciously inviting us to read Thy Word and to join together in Thy worship, be pleased to have compassion on our in-

firmities, and give us grace that we may profit by Thy teaching, and serve Thee acceptably with reverence and godly fear, through Jesus Christ our Lord. —Amen.

III.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, who knowest what things we have need of before we ask, and art able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, direct and aid us, we beseech Thee, in our supplications; that, though of ourselves we know not how to pray, and are not worthy that Thou shouldst grant our requests, we may ask and obtain whatsoever is expedient for us, according to Thy glorious riches in Christ Jesus; to whom, with Thee and with the Holy Spirit, be honour and praise for evermore.—Amen.

IV.

O GOD, who hast given Thy Word as a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, dispose us meekly to receive it, and enable us carefully to obey it, that, being upheld and guided in Thy ways, we may walk in holiness and in righteousness before Thee all the days of our life, and finally come to Thine everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

V.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who inhabitest eternity, but dwellest also with the broken and contrite spirit, incline Thine ear to the voice of our supplications, and pour out upon us the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that, humbled for our sins, and trembling at Thy Word, we may be revived and comforted with Thy fellowship, and may render unto Thee acceptable worship; through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

VI.

O LORD, without whom we can do nothing as we ought, assist us in our supplications which we make to Thee in the name of Thy beloved Son, and enlighten our minds in the knowledge of Thy truth, that the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts, may be acceptable in Thy sight, O God, our strength and our Redeemer.—Amen.

VII.

O GOD, who art a Spirit, and who wouldst be worshipped in spirit and in truth, give us, we beseech Thee, the dispositions of true worshippers, and let our humble endeavours in Thy service be aided by the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, and accepted through the mediation of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and only Saviour.—Amen.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP.

First Week.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR GRACE TO HALLOW THE SABBATH.

O GOD, our Creator and Redeemer, who in Thy love to man hast set apart one day in seven to be a holy Sabbath, and in Thy merciful providence hast spared us to see another return of Thy sacred day, make us thankful for this precious season of rest and worship and instruction, and enable us by Thy grace to hallow it to those devout uses for which Thou hast appointed it.

We confess, O God, that we are prone to forget Thee amidst the pursuits and pleasures of the world. We acknowledge with shame that even on Thy holy day we have been inclined to follow our own ways, to speak our own words, and to find our own pleasure, instead of delighting ourselves in Thee and in Thy service; and that often when we have come

before Thee as Thy people come, and worshipped Thee with our lips, our hearts have been far from Thee.

Pardon, O God, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our past aversion to Thy fellowship, with all the coldness and indifference we have shown to the honour of Thy name, and the sanctity of Thine ordinances. And now that Thou art again inviting us to remember the Sabbath-day and keep it holy, we humbly implore the grace of Thy Spirit, to fit and prepare our hearts for the observance of it; that, resting from our works as Thou didst from Thine, and rising from worldly vanities and cares, as Christ our Lord was raised from the dead, we may have our thoughts directed to those things which belong to Thy glory and our own everlasting peace, and may receive, in the keeping of Thine earthly Sabbath, a foretaste of that heavenly rest which Thou wilt hereafter bestow on Thy people.

We thank thee, O Lord, for all the privileges and means of grace which on this day Thou art pleased to afford us; and we pray that Thou wouldst render them effectual in furthering our increase in knowledge and in holiness.

Almighty God, who didst in the beginning command the light to shine out of darkness, shine, we beseech Thee, into our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of Thy glory in the face of Jesus Christ our Saviour; and grant that, thus knowing Thee, we may heartily love Thee, and faithfully trust in

Thee, and cheerfully obey Thee; and that, beholding with open face as in a glass the glory of the Lord, we may be changed into the same image from glory to glory, until, being fully conformed to Thy likeness, we are at length presented faultless before the presence of Thy glory with exceeding joy.

O God, who hast promised that in all places where Thou dost record Thy name, Thou wilt come unto Thy people and wilt bless them, vouchsafe unto us, and unto all our fellow-worshippers in every place, Thy presence and Thy blessing. Enable Thy ministering servants solemnly to guide the devotions of Thy Church, and faithfully to declare the truths of Thy Gospel. And grant that their ministrations may be effectual for the conversion of sinners, and for the building up of saints in holiness and comfort through faith unto salvation.

Be very gracious to those who are withheld by sickness, or any other necessary cause, from worshipping Thee in the assemblies of Thy people; and give them to feel, in the privacy of their dwellings, that Thou art ever nigh to such as truly seek Thee.

Have pity on those who wilfully forsake Thine ordinances and profane Thy holy day. Convince them of their guilt, and bring them to repentance.

Increase everywhere the number of Thy true worshippers; and hasten the time when incense and a pure offering shall ascend unto Thee from the rising unto the setting sun.

To Thy special care and guidance we commit our-

selves, and all who are near and dear to us, this day. O send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead us, and bring us to Thy tabernacles. Then will we go to the altar of God, unto God our exceeding joy. Cause us to feel that it is good for us to draw near to Thee. And may it please Thee, O God, to remember us with the favour that Thou bearest unto Thy people, and to visit us with Thy salvation; for the sake of Jesus Christ, thy beloved Son, to whom, with Thee, and with the Holy Spirit, be glory and majesty, dominion and blessing, world without end.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

THANKSGIVING FOR PRIVILEGES, AND PRAYER FOR GRACE TO WALK WORTHY OF THEM.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of mercies, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift, we lift up our souls unto Thee in prayer and supplication with thanksgiving.

We thank Thee for the instructions of Thy Word, the rest of Thy Sabbath, the ordinances of Thy worship, and all our Christian privileges and means of grace; above all, for the promise of Thy Holy Spirit to bless them, and make them effectual for our salvation. We praise Thy name that we are more highly favoured than prophets and kings and righteous men of old, who desired to see the things which we see but saw them not, and to hear the things which we hear but heard them not; and that Thou hast greatly distinguished us above many of our fellow-creatures who are still sitting in gross darkness, by causing the Dayspring from on high to visit us, and guiding our feet into the way of life and peace.

Make us duly sensible, we beseech Thee, of the great and manifold advantages Thou hast conferred upon us. Enter not into judgment with Thy servants for all the negligence, unfaithfulness, and sinfulness, wherewith we have hitherto slighted or abused them. And help us, for the time to come, more justly to value our privileges, and with greater care and earnestness to improve them, that they may not at last rise against us to our condemnation.

Almighty God, who hast called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to Thine own purpose and grace in Christ Jesus, and hast blessed us in Him with all spiritual blessings, grant that we may in everything be enriched by Him, so as to come behind in no gift. Perfect that which is lacking in our faith; make us to increase

and abound more and more in love to Thee, and in charity to our fellow-men; cause us to be filled with the knowledge of Thy will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, that we may walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work.

O Lord our God, who hast graciously promised an everlasting rest to Thy people hereafter, and hast given Thy Sabbath to foreshadow it, and to prepare us for it; help us with all diligence and faithfulness to labour that we may enter into that rest; and enable us so to profit by our use of the ordinances and instructions of Thy holy day, that, going on from strength to strength, we may every one of us appear in Zion before Thee, there to enjoy the blessedness of those that dwell in Thy house and are for ever praising Thee.

We pray that everywhere, even as with us, Thy word may have free course and be glorified; that Thy ministering servants may be faithful and successful; that Thy Church may be edified, purified, and extended; that the outcasts of Israel and the fulness of the Gentiles may be gathered into the fold of the great Shepherd and Bishop of souls; and that the blessed day may soon come when the knowledge of Thy Gospel shall cover the whole earth.

We pray for the welfare and happiness of our Sovereign; for the good of our country; for the peace of all nations.

We pray for the poor, the sick, the dying, and all

who are in danger or distress; that it may please Thee to comfort and support them, and to give them a happy issue out of all their troubles.

To Thy fatherly care, O God, we commend ourselves, and all who are near and dear to us; beseeching Thee to defend us this night from all evil, and to bring us in safety to the light of a new day.

O Thou that hearest prayer, incline Thine ear to our humble supplications. Remember not against us our manifold transgressions, which render us unworthy of the least of Thy mercies. And do to us, not according to our imperfect asking, but according to Thine infinite goodness in Christ Jesus, to whom, with Thee, and with the Holy Spirit, be honour and praise for ever and ever.—Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR GRACE TO CARRY THE INFLUENCE OF THE SABBATH INTO THE BUSINESS OF THE WEEK.

O GOD, our Creator and Preserver, who, by the rest of Thy holy Sabbath, and by the peaceful slumbers of the past night, hast restored our souls and refreshed our bodies, we thankfully acknowledge Thy goodness, and yield up ourselves anew to Thy service.

Suffer us not, we beseech Thee, when returning

to the ordinary concerns of this life, to be forgetful of the instructions of Thy Word, or to cast off the hallowed influence of Thy worship. May every wholesome lesson be remembered, every good impression deepened, every holy resolution confirmed. Help us to carry the spirit of the Sabbath into the ordinary business of the week, so that amidst all our labours our souls may still rest in Thee, and that, whether we eat or drink, or whatsoever we do, we may do all to Thy glory.

We confess, O God, that our goodness has often been as the morning cloud or early dew, that passeth away. And we beseech Thee to pardon our unsteadfastness, and to give us grace, whereby we may be enabled more constantly and consistently to walk with Thee. Let the life we henceforth lead in the body be a life of faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave Himself for us; and let our profiting by the grace He hath conferred appear in our habitual temper and conversation.

O Lord, without whom we can do nothing as we ought, help us in all our actions to maintain a strict regard to the precepts of Thy Word, and to abstain from all appearance of evil. Set a watch before our mouths, and keep the door of our lips, that no corrupt communications may proceed from them, but that which is good to the use of edifying. Cleanse our hearts from all unholy desires, from all worldly and covetous affections, from all malignant and uncharitable dispositions. And enable us so to manifest the

power of godliness, that we may be living epistles of the Lord, known and read of all men.

Grant us this day Thy guidance and protection. Aid us in our appointed occupations. Support us in any trials or dangers that may befall us. Help us to endure as seeing Thee, who art invisible. And while we are diligent in seeking those things that are needful for our sustenance and comfort in the present world, may it be our chief concern to lay up treasure in heaven, and to labour for the meat that endureth unto eternal life.

Let Thy blessing rest on the inmates of this dwelling. Give grace to all of us to discharge our several duties, as parents or children, masters or servants, with uprightness, fidelity, and diligence.

Bestow Thy favour on our relatives and friends. Prosper all the interests of our country. Be gracious to our Queen, and to all who are in authority over us, and dispose them ever to rule in Thy fear.

Provide for the poor; instruct the ignorant; reclaim the erring; pity the afflicted; impart relief and comfort to the sick; prepare for their great change those who are about to die.

We pray for all our brethren of mankind, that it may please Thee more and more widely to diffuse among them the knowledge of Thy saving truth, and to bring them to the faith and obedience of Thy Gospel.

Graciously hear our humble supplications, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, who hath taught us to pray, saying—

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

PRAYER TO GOD AS OUR FATHER.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, give us, we beseech Thee, the spirit of adoption, while we pour out before Thee the desires of our hearts; that, coming unto Thee with all holy confidence, as children to a father able and ready to help us, we may be accepted in the name of Thy beloved Son, and through Him receive the petitions which we ask of Thee.

Holy Father, we are unworthy to be called Thy children, because we have rebelled against Thee. We confess that we have been unthankful for Thy mercies, distrustful of Thy promises, and disobedient to Thy commandments; that we have despised Thy fatherly chastenings, and have turned a deaf ear to Thy coun-

sels and reproofs; that we have kept back from Thee the affection of our hearts, and by our manifold wickedness have provoked Thee to cast us off from Thy fellowship and favour.

Merciful Father, grant us Thy forgiveness. Work in us true repentance towards Thee, and faith unfeigned towards the Lord Jesus Christ. And for His sake be merciful to our unrighteousness, and remember our iniquities no more.

Give unto us also Thy Holy Spirit, to witness with our spirits that we are Thy children, and to produce in us all filial love, and trust, and gratitude, and obedience to Thy blessed will. Make us to be kindly affectioned to our brethren, ready to bear with their errors and infirmities, and to do them good as we have opportunity. And amidst all the toils and trials of our present condition, support and comfort our hearts with the lively hope of that blessed inheritance which awaits us in our Father's kingdom.

O Thou bountiful giver of all good, who knowest what things we have need of before we ask, and art able to do for us above all that we ask or think, we cast ourselves on Thy paternal care, and plead with Thee, according to Thy good promises, for all things truly necessary or expedient for us. Grant us, in all our duties, Thy help; in all our difficulties, Thy counsel; in all our trials and dangers, Thy protection; in all our sorrows, Thy peace and consolation. And whatsoever it may please Thee to give or to withhold,

teach us to be contented with Thy will, and to rest with unshaken trust in Thine assurance, that all things work together for good to them that love Thee.

Father of mercies, whose power hath sustained us, whose bounty hath provided for us, whose love hath redeemed us, we render thanks and praise to Thee for all Thy goodness; acknowledging that we are not worthy of the least of all Thy benefits, and beseeching Thee so to impress them on our hearts, that we may be led to show our gratitude by a cheerful and steadfast obedience to Thy commandments.

We pray for all our relatives and friends, that they may be blessed with Thy favour and protection.

We pray for the poor, the sick, the dying, and all who are visited with trouble or affliction, that it may please Thee to comfort and relieve them.

Look with compassion on the whole human race. Promote their peace, their liberty, their happiness. Above all, bring them to the knowledge of Thy truth, and make them wise unto salvation.

And now, O God, we commit ourselves to Thy guardianship during the silence and darkness of the coming night. Grant us refreshing sleep, and mercifully spare us to enjoy the blessings and discharge the duties of another day.

Grant these requests, O God, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour. —Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR DIVINE GUIDANCE AND GUARDIANSHIP THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

ALMIGHTY GOD,* our Father and Preserver, we give Thee thanks that of Thy goodness Thou hast watched over us during the past night, and brought us to see the light of another day. Strengthen and guard us by Thy grace, we beseech Thee, that we may spend this day wholly in Thy service, seeking Thy glory and the good of our fellow-men. And even as Thou now sheddest the beams of the sun upon the earth to give light unto our bodies, may it please Thee also to illuminate our souls with the brightness of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may be guided in the paths of righteousness. Cause us to hear Thy loving-kindness in the morning, for in Thee do we trust. Cause us to know the way wherein we should walk; for we lift up our souls unto Thee.

We confess, O God, that by reason of our manifold sins we are unworthy to seek any blessing at Thy hands; but we beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, to blot out, as a thick cloud, our transgressions. Let them no longer stand between us and Thee, hiding from us the light of Thy countenance, and threatening us with the tempest of Thy wrath.

* Calvin's *Morning Prayer*, slightly altered.

But may it please Thee to cast them out of Thy remembrance, and of Thy boundless mercy to forgive them, as Thou hast promised unto such as call on Thee in truth.

Help us also for the time to come to yield up ourselves entirely to Thy service. Let it be the purpose of our whole lives to honour Thee. May we look for all prosperity to Thy favour and blessing, and seek only such things as are pleasing in Thy sight.

Assist us in all the duties of our calling. Grant that while we are not slothful in business, we may also be fervent in spirit serving the Lord. And enable us, while labouring for the life that now is, to look ever beyond it to that heavenly life which Thou hast promised to Thy children.

Defend us, O God, in soul and body, from all evil. Guard us against the assaults of the devil, the snares of the world, and the sinful desires of our own hearts. And seeing it is a small thing to have begun well, except we also persevere, take us, O Lord, into Thy good keeping this day and all our days. Continue and increase Thy grace within us, until we be perfected in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Sun of righteousness, who shall replenish our souls with His eternal light and gladness.

We pray for all our relatives and friends, that Thou wouldst encompass them with the shield of Thy protection, and greatly enrich them with the treasures of Thy grace.

We commend to Thy care the young of this family.

Guide them in the ways of godliness; and satisfy them early with Thy mercy, that they may rejoice and be glad all their days.

Regard with Thy favour the servants of this household, and help them, by all good fidelity in their appointed station, to honour and serve Thee their great Master in heaven.

We pray for the poor, the sick, the dying, and all who are in adversity or affliction, that it may please Thee to comfort and relieve them, and to overrule their trials for their good.

Extend Thy compassion, we beseech Thee, to all mankind. Put an end to war and discord, as well as to vice and superstition, everywhere. And speedily diffuse Thy Gospel throughout the earth, to enlighten and convert the nations that sit in darkness.

These our humble supplications are before Thee. Graciously hear them and favourably answer them, according to the riches of Thy mercy in Jesus Christ, our Lord and only Saviour.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

TUESDAY EVENING.

PRAYER FOR THE DIVINE BLESSING AND PROTECTION DURING THE NIGHT.

O GOD,* who hast appointed the night for rest and the day for labour, grant, we beseech Thee, that we may so rest in peace and quietness during the coming night, that afterwards we may be able to bear our appointed labours. Take us into Thy holy protection, so that no evil may befall us, and no plague may come nigh our dwelling. And although we have not passed this day without greatly sinning against Thee, yet may it please Thee, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, to hide our sins with Thy mercy, as Thou coverest all things on earth with the darkness of the night, and to bury them evermore out of Thy remembrance; that as our bodies are refreshed by quiet sleep, so also our minds may be made tranquil by a comfortable sense of Thy forgiveness.

We thank Thee, O God, that Thou hast not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. Help us, we pray Thee, with true faith to rest on Him, and all our life long with purpose of heart to cleave to Him. And when at length our days are

* Calvin's *Evening Prayer*, with some additions.

ended, and our work is finished in this world, grant that we may depart hence in the blessed assurance of Thy favour, and in the sure hope of that glorious kingdom, where there is day without night, and light without darkness, and life without the shadow of death, for ever.

We pray for Thy blessing on all our beloved friends. Guard them from evil by night and by day. Supply all their wants according to Thy glorious riches. Above all, enrich them with spiritual and heavenly blessings.

Regard with Thy favour the children of this family. Deliver them from all the temptations that surround them, and cause them to grow in knowledge and in grace.

May the servants of this house remember that they have a Master in heaven, and find their appointed toils dignified and sweetened to them, by the thought that in all things they are serving the Lord Christ.

We implore Thy blessing on the widow and the orphan, the poor, the sick, the sorrowful and the dying. Succour and relieve them according to their necessities; and overrule all Thy dealings with them for their spiritual good.

Bestow Thy favour on the British Empire and all its Colonies. Preserve to us our liberties and privileges. Bless our Queen and all in authority; enable them to rule in Thy fear; and grant that under them all orders of the people may lead quiet lives in godliness and honesty.

O God, who hast made of one blood all nations,

and wouldst have all men to come to the knowledge of the truth, open, we beseech Thee, a great door and effectual for the preaching of Thy blessed Gospel everywhere; and hasten the time when all the ends of the earth shall turn to Thee, and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before Thee.

And now, O Lord our God, we entreat Thee, incline Thine ear to the voice of our supplications; for we do not present them to Thee for our own righteousnesses, but for Thy great mercies, and in the name of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

GENERAL THANKSGIVING.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, it is a good thing to give thanks unto Thee, to sing praises unto Thy name, O Thou Most High, to show forth Thy loving-kindness in the morning, and Thy faithfulness every night. For in Thee we live, and move, and have our being; and from thee cometh down every good and perfect gift.

We give unto Thee the glory that is due for having created us after Thine own image, and endowed us with the gifts of reason and of conscience, whereby we are capable of knowing and of serving Thee.

We thank Thee for the bounties of Thy Providence; for health and strength; food and raiment; for mani-

fold social blessings and domestic comforts; for seasonable help and succour in our times of need; for tender pity and consolation in our hours of sorrow; and for all the care and kindness Thou hast shown to us from our earliest infancy even until now.

Above all, we magnify Thy name for Thine unspeakable mercy to our souls. We thank Thee, that Thou hast given Thy beloved Son to be the propitiation for our sins; that Thou hast promised Thy Holy Spirit to sanctify our corrupt nature; that Thou hast called us out of darkness into the marvellous light of Thy Gospel; that Thou hast abundantly favoured us with means of grace, and hast comforted us with the hope of immortal glory.

Holy Father, let not our manifold sins, which have made us unworthy of the least of all Thy mercies, prevail with Thee to remove Thy blessings from us. Have mercy on us after Thy loving-kindness; according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies, blot out our transgressions. And for the sake of Thy beloved Son, in whom we have redemption through His blood, continue to us the tokens of Thy love, and visit us with the joys of Thy salvation.

Help us, we beseech Thee, for the time to come, more worthily to acknowledge Thy goodness. May we show our sense of it by increasing trust in Thee, by full contentment with the portion Thou hast given us, by kind and charitable dispositions towards our fellow-men, and by cheerful obedience to Thy holy commandments.

O God, by whose good hand upon us we have been spared to see the light of another day, and in whose merciful providence we are now called to go forth to our work and labour until the evening, grant us, in all our occupations, we beseech Thee, the aid of Thy strength, and the guidance of Thy wisdom. Teach us in all our ways to acknowledge Thee. And whatsoever we do, in word or in deed, enable us to do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God even the Father by Him.

Graciously hear us, O God, while we plead with Thee for all whom we ought to remember at a throne of grace.

Bestow Thy favour on our relatives and friends. Reward with Thy bounty all that have done us good. Pardon and convert all who have done or wished us evil, and enable us to forgive them from the heart.

God of all comfort, have pity on the afflicted. Grant them Thy grace to sustain them in their hour of trial. And let Thy chastening, though for the present grievous, yield in them afterwards the peaceable fruits of righteousness.

We pray for our country, that it may please Thee to promote all its interests, civil and religious. Bless and long preserve our beloved Sovereign. And give to all who are in authority over us the spirit of their station, that they may rule in Thy fear.

Look with compassion, we beseech Thee, on the whole world. Hasten the time when repentance and remission of sins shall be preached in the name of

Jesus to all nations; and grant that wherever Thy Gospel is already known, its holy and blessed fruits may be more and more abundant.

Incline Thine ear, O God, to our supplications, and favourably receive the tribute of our praises, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Saviour; to whom, with Thee and with the Holy Ghost, be ascribed all glory, thanksgiving, and dominion, world without end.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

PRAYER FOR A DUE SENSE OF THE DIVINE GOODNESS.

O GOD, who by Thy merciful providence hast guided and upheld us throughout the past day, and under whose watchful guardianship we are encouraged to lay ourselves down and sleep in peace during the coming night; we acknowledge our dependence on Thy care, and lift up our souls in

thanksgiving for Thy goodness. Blessed be Thou, who daily loadest us with benefits, O God of our salvation.

Pardon, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our past ingratitude for Thy manifold loving-kindnesses. Remember no more against us our transgressions, whereby we have provoked Thy just anger. Continue to us, notwithstanding our unworthiness, those temporal and spiritual blessings which hitherto we have received at Thy most bountiful hands. And teach us henceforth to show our thankfulness for all the goodness and mercy Thou hast conferred, by giving up ourselves to Thy service, and doing those things that are pleasing in Thy sight. O that there were such an heart in us, that we would fear Thee, and keep all Thy commandments always, that it might be well with us and with our children for ever.

Grant, O God, that our experience of Thy goodness may lead us, at all times, to put our trust in Thee. May we feel assured that Thou, who hast blessed us hitherto, wilt bliss us still, and wilt withhold from us nothing which Thou knowest, in Thine unerring wisdom, to be needful or expedient for us.

Grant also, that a due sense of Thine unmerited kindness may subdue in us every feeling of discontentment. May we meekly submit to our hardships or deprivations, acknowledging that they are unworthy to be compared with the bounties of Thy providence, and the riches of Thy grace.

Father of mercies, who doest good continually, and

art kind even to the unthankful and the evil; teach us, in imitation of Thy beneficence, to be generous and compassionate towards our fellow-men, to bless them that curse us, and do good to them that hate us, to walk in love as Thou hast loved us, and from the heart to forgive one another, even as Thou for Christ's sake forgivest us.

God of all grace, we beseech Thee to extend to others the blessings and privileges with which we have ourselves been favoured. Have mercy on all our brethren of mankind, and bring them to the knowledge and reception of Thy truth. Bless our country, and prosper it in all its interests. Bestow Thy favour on our Sovereign the Queen. Grant that her reign may be long and prosperous, and that she may at last receive a crown of glory.

We pray for the sons and daughters of affliction, that it may please Thee to comfort and relieve them, and to overrule Thy fatherly chastening to the everlasting welfare of their souls.

We earnestly pray for the children of this family, that they may be kept from the evil that is in the world, and trained up in the faith and practice of Thy Gospel.

Give to the servants of this household, we beseech Thee, the grace that is needful for serving Thee, their heavenly Master, in the station which Thy providence hath assigned to them. And grant that whatsoever they do, they may do it heartily, as unto the Lord and not unto man.

And now, O God, we commit ourselves to Thee. Watch over us during the darkness of the night. Save us from all dangers. Grant us refreshing sleep; and bring us in peace to the light of a new day.

Graciously hear us, O Father, and have mercy on us, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our strength and our Redeemer.—Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR A SENSE OF GOD'S PRESENCE.

O LORD, who hast searched us and known us, who compassest our path and our lying down, and art acquainted with all our ways, we worship Thee as the ever-present God, who, though unseen, art not far from any one of us. Whither shall we go from Thy Spirit? or whither shall we flee from Thy presence? If we ascend up into heaven, Thou art there; if we make our bed in hell, behold Thou art there; if we take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall Thy hand lead us, and Thy right hand shall hold us. If we say, Surely the darkness shall cover us, even the night shall be light about us. Yea, the darkness hideth not from Thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee.

O God, who hast set our iniquities before Thee, and our secret sins in the light of Thy countenance, we humble ourselves in Thy most holy presence, acknowledging our utter unworthiness in Thy sight. O our God, we have cause to be ashamed before Thee, when we consider how little we have thought upon Thee; how often we have disregarded or forgotten Thee; how prone we have been to live without Thee in the world; how much Thou hast witnessed, in the ungodliness of our hearts and the sinfulness of our lives, that is hateful and offensive to Thee.

Enter not, O God, into judgment with Thy servants, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. But for the sake of Jesus Christ, who bore our sins in His own body on the cross, and ever liveth to make intercession for us, bestow upon us Thy forgiveness, and make the light of Thy countenance to shine upon us.

Give us grace also, whereby we may be enabled more faithfully to live as in Thy presence. In every season of danger or of trouble, may we look up to Thee as our very present help. In every hour of trial or temptation, may we stand in awe, lest in anything we offend Thee, who searchest our hearts, and triest our reins, and understandest our thoughts afar off. In all the concerns and occupations of our daily life, help us to endure as seeing Thee who art invisible. And when our course on earth is finished, grant, O God, that we may be supported and comforted with Thy presence in the valley of the shadow

of death, and may at last come to the glories of Thy heavenly kingdom, and there be made perfectly blessed in seeing, serving, and enjoying Thee for ever.

O God, who wouldst have all men to come to the knowledge of the truth, send forth everywhere the light of Thy glorious Gospel; remove the veil from the hearts of Thine ancient people; dispel the darkness and superstition of the heathen; and hasten the time when all nations shall be blessed in Jesus, and shall call Him blessed.

We pray for Thy servants, who in every place make manifest the savour of Thy knowledge, that it may please Thee to strengthen and encourage them, and to make them faithful and successful in their great work.

Deal favourably, O God, with the land in which we dwell, and bless it with peace, and plenty, and prosperity. Be very gracious to our Sovereign the Queen. Defend her by Thy power; counsel her with Thy wisdom; and let her throne be established in righteousness.

Bestow Thy blessing, we beseech Thee, on our friends and kindred. Keep them from all the evil that is in the world. Remember them for good, and visit them with Thy salvation.

Father of mercies, have pity on the afflicted. Relieve their distresses; assuage their griefs; and grant them a happy issue out of all their troubles.

Prepare us, O God, for every trial and for every duty. As our day is, so let our strength be. Guide

us by Thy counsel while we live, and afterwards receive us into glory, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING.

PRAYER FOR PARDON AND REPENTANCE.

O LORD our God, most high and most holy, who humblest Thyself to behold the things that are on earth, and dost not despise the supplication of the penitent; have mercy on us, Thine unworthy children, and favourably regard us for the sake of Thy beloved Son, through whom alone we have access to Thy throne of grace.

We acknowledge that in ourselves we are not worthy to lift up our eyes to heaven, or to take Thy holy name into our lips. We confess that our sins have been many and great, and that we are every

day adding to their number. We have no cloak to hide them, and no plea to excuse them. Our own hearts condemn us on account of them; and Thou art greater than our hearts, and knowest all things.

Lord God, merciful and gracious, remember not against us, we beseech Thee, the sins of the past day, or of our past lives. Pardon whatever proud or vain thoughts we have harboured within us; whatever impatience and fretfulness we have betrayed; whatever worldliness of spirit we have cherished; whatever we have said or done that is inconsistent with supreme love to Thee, or fervent charity towards our brethren. Justify us freely by Thy grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; and grant us, for His sake, the blessedness of the man whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered, and unto whom Thou imputest not iniquity.

Gracious God, who desirest not sacrifice, and hast no delight in burnt-offering, but requirest of us to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with Thee; grant us, we pray Thee, the grace of true repentance; and so direct and govern our hearts and lives, that henceforth we may walk in the way of Thy commandments, and may offer unto Thee sacrifices of righteousness, well-pleasing in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Teach us every day to examine and prove ourselves in the light of Thy Holy Word, that we may not be continuing in any sin, or neglecting any duty, but may ever rejoice in the testimony of our conscience,

that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have our conversation in the world.

O God, who art daily bearing with our sins, and crowning us with Thy loving-kindnesses, give unto us hearts more sensible of Thy love to us, and more full of love to Thee, and dispose us ever to seek our happiness in the enjoyment of Thy favour, the doing of Thy will, and the hope of Thy heavenly kingdom.

Merciful Father, who givest Thy beloved sleep, let our rest this night be quiet and refreshing; and if it please Thee to raise us to another day, enable us faithfully to spend it in Thy service.

We commend to Thy care our relatives and friends, beseeching Thee to remember them with the favour that Thou bearest unto Thy people, and to visit them with Thy salvation. We implore Thy blessing on the children of this family. Preserve them from the sins and dangers of youth. Incline their hearts to seek Thee early; and prepare them for serving Thee here and hereafter. Bestow Thy favour on the servants of this household. May they be faithful servants of the Lord Christ, and at last receive of Him the reward of the inheritance.

Father of mercies and God of all comfort, have pity on those whom Thou hast visited with affliction, and let Thy chastening, though for the present grievous, yield in them afterward the peaceable fruits of righteousness.

Be very gracious to our Sovereign the Queen, and to all the members of the Royal Family, and enable them to adorn their high station with all the graces and virtues of a godly life. Favourably regard the British Empire, and let it be distinguished by that righteousness which exalteth a nation. Promote the peace and happiness of the whole world, and hasten the time when all the nations of the earth shall be brought to the faith and obedience of Thy Gospel.

Give ear, O God, to our humble supplications, and grant unto us an answer of peace, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

FRIDAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR GOD'S HELP AND BLESSING IN OUR ORDINARY OCCUPATIONS.

O GOD, through whose watchful providence we have slept in peace and awaked in safety, and to whose bounty we are indebted for the manifold comforts and blessings which surround us, we give Thee thanks for all Thy past goodness, and humbly implore Thy continued favour and protection. Thou art our God, early will we seek Thee. Our voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will we direct our prayer to Thee, and will look up.

We confess before Thee that we are fallen and sinful creatures, unworthy to receive any blessing at Thy hands. But we put our trust in Thy well-beloved Son, who gave Himself as a sacrifice for our sins, and ever liveth to make intercession for us. And in His name we earnestly beseech Thee to grant us Thy pardon, to aid us with Thy grace, to sanctify our souls for Thy service, and to supply all our need according to Thy glorious riches by Christ Jesus.

O God, who hast appointed to every man his proper work, and art now calling us, in the morning of another day, to go forth to our several occupations until the evening; teach us in all our ways to acknowledge Thee. Enable us to perform our allotted tasks with diligence, and to guide our affairs with prudence and discretion. And may it please Thee, in all our undertakings, to encourage us with Thy favour, to further us with Thy help, and to grant us such success as seemeth good to thee, who orderest all things well and wisely for us.

Teach us, in all our intercourse with our fellow-men, to walk in truth and uprightness before Thee; rendering unto all their dues, and doing unto others as we would that they should do to us. Dispose us, as much as lieth in us, to live peaceably with all men. Make us to be kindly-affectioned one to another, ready to bear with the infirmities of the weak, to relieve the destitute, to comfort the afflicted, to

reclaim the erring, to forgive the injurious, and to do good to all as we have opportunity.

Give us grace also, whereby we may be enabled to keep ourselves unspotted from the world. Suffer us not to be burdened with its cares, ensnared by its pleasures, corrupted by its riches, or led astray by its fashions and examples. Teach us to live above it and to look beyond it, confessing ourselves to be strangers on the earth, and desiring a better country, that is, a heavenly.

'O Lord, who hast promised to such as seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, that all other needful things shall be added to them, enable us to put our trust in Thee; and grant us such deliverance, we beseech Thee, from anxious thoughts and covetous affections, that the peace of God which passeth understanding may keep our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Father of mercies, extend Thy compassion to those who are disabled by sickness and infirmity for engaging in the active business of this life. Help them to glorify Thee in their affliction by a meek and patient submission to Thy will, and by a firm trust in Thy gracious promise, that all things work together for good to them that love Thee.

Bestow Thy favour on all our friends and kindred, especially on the children of this family. Deliver them from all the evil that is in the world, and keep them by Thy power through faith unto salvation.

Abundantly bless our Sovereign the Queen. Enrich her with all heavenly graces, and grant her a long reign in peace and in prosperity.

Bless all ranks and conditions of men among us. Help them in their several stations faithfully to walk with Thee, and to lead quiet lives in godliness and honesty.

Extend Thy mercy to all our brethren of mankind. Our heart's desire and prayer is that they may be saved. Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee.

Grant these requests, O Father, we beseech Thee, and all other things which Thou knowest to be needful for us, according to Thy promises made to us in Jesus Christ, who hath taught us to pray, saying—

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

FRIDAY EVENING.

PRAYER FOR HEAVENLY-MINDEDNESS.

O LORD, who art good, and ready to forgive, and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee; incline Thine ear, we beseech Thee, to our supplications, which we offer in the name of Thy well-beloved Son. Let our prayer be set forth before Thee as incense, and the lifting up of our hands as the evening sacrifice.

We thank Thee for the help and countenance Thou hast given us throughout the past day in our several occupations, and humbly beseech Thee to grant us, during the coming night, such quiet rest as shall enable us on the morrow to go forth again with renewed strength to our appointed labours.

Pardon, O God, wherein we have offended Thee by an undue concern for the things of the present world. We confess that we are apt to be engrossed with the cares and business and pleasures of this life; that we often suffer the vanities of earth to rob Thee of our homage and affection; and that, in the eagerness of our pursuit of things temporal, we are prone to forget or neglect those which are eternal.

O God, who knowest this our foolishness, grant us, for Christ's sake, Thy mercy to forgive it, and Thy grace effectually to restrain and turn us from it.

Quicken our souls, that they cleave not to the dust. Convince us of the vanity of this world, and of its insufficiency to make us truly happy. Lead us to choose Thee, in preference to all Thy creatures, as our only sure and satisfying portion. Teach us to esteem Thy loving-kindness as better than life, and Thy law as more precious than thousands of gold and silver. And give us such views of the great and glorious things which Thou hast prepared for them that love Thee, as shall withdraw our affections from the world, and fix them on the joys and glories of Thy heavenly kingdom.

Blessed be Thou, O God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, according to Thine abundant mercy, hast begotten us again to a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved for us in heaven. Grant, we beseech Thee, that, having this hope in us, we may be led by Thy grace to walk worthy of it. May we be crucified unto the world, and raised with Christ to newness of life. And being risen with Him, may we also be enabled in heart and mind to ascend with Him to heavenly places, and to seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth at Thy right hand; to the end that, having our conversation in heaven, and our life hid with Christ in God, we may rest in the cheerful and confident persuasion, that when He who is our life shall appear, we also shall appear with Him in glory.

Graciously hear us, O God, while we plead with Thee, not for ourselves only, but also for our brethren. Cause Thy light to shine on those who are in darkness. Bring into the way of truth all who are deceived. Succour the tempted. Raise up the fallen. Provide for the destitute. Comfort the afflicted. Support the dying, and prepare them for their change.

Bestow Thy favour on the land in which we dwell, and graciously preserve to us our liberties and privileges. Bless our Queen with prosperity and length of days; above all, enrich her with spiritual and heavenly blessings. And give grace to all who are in authority, that they may use it for Thy glory and for the public good.

To Thy fatherly care we commend the children of this family. Preserve them from all the dangers and temptations to which, in an evil world, they are exposed. Cause them to grow in grace, and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ, whom to know is life eternal.

We implore Thy blessing on the servants of this household, beseeching Thee to aid and encourage them in all their duties, and to make them faithful followers of Him who took upon Him the form of a servant, and went about doing good.

And now, O God, we humbly commit ourselves, and all who are near and dear to us, to Thy care. Be merciful to us, we beseech Thee, and bless us, and make Thy face to shine upon us, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR SANCTIFICATION.

O LORD our God, who dwellest on high, and art worshipped by unnumbered hosts of glorious spirits, that cease not to render to Thee pure and perfect homage; look down on us, Thy fallen and sinful creatures, from heaven the habitation of Thy holiness, and hearken to the voice of our prayers.

Remember not, we beseech Thee, our manifold offences, by reason of which we are unworthy to lift up our eyes to the place where Thine honour dwelleth. Graciously forgive us, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, who is the propitiation for our sins. And through Him may it please Thee to bestow upon us the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, whereby we may be disposed and enabled truly to love Thee, heartily to trust in Thee, and wholly to give up ourselves to Thy service.

O Lord, who hast called us to be holy as Thou art holy, and who canst alone make us such as Thou wouldst have us to be, fulfil in us all the good pleasure of Thy goodness, and stablish us in every good work, that we may stand perfect and complete in all Thy will. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Enable us to put off the old man, which is corrupt according to

the deceitful lusts, and, being renewed in the spirit of our minds, to put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. May we be delivered from all evil thoughts, unholy passions, and uncharitable tempers; from pride and vanity, from malice and revenge, from envy and discontentment, from covetousness and worldliness. May we be enabled to abound more and more in faith, and love, and temperance, and godliness; in all holy desires; in all good purposes; in all kind and brotherly affections; in all meek, patient, humble, sober, pure, and peaceable dispositions; that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in us and we in Him, according to the grace which through Him Thou has bestowed upon us. O God of peace, sanctify us wholly. And grant that our whole spirit, and soul, and body, may be stablished in holiness before Thee, and preserved blameless, unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

Graciously hear us, O God, while we plead with Thee for all whom we ought to remember in our prayers.

We commend our friends to Thy favour, our benefactors to Thy bounty, our enemies to Thy forgiveness. We pray for the children of this family, that they may be trained up in Thy fear; and for the servants, that they may be enabled to show all good fidelity in their appointed station. We beseech Thee to look with compassion on the afflicted, and to grant them all needful consolation and relief. We pray for

our Queen, that she may rule in Thy fear; and for our country, that it may prosper in all its interests. We pray for all men, that Thou wouldst enlighten and convert them, until the whole world be filled with Thy glory.

And now, O God, we commit ourselves to Thee. Assist us this day in our several occupations. And whatsoever we do, in word or deed, enable us to do all in the name of the Lord Jesus; through whom we humbly offer our prayers, and to whom, with Thee and with the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, for evermore.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

SATURDAY EVENING.

REVIEW OF LIFE AND PREPARATION FOR DEATH.

HEAVENLY FATHER, who hast safely brought us to the close of another day and of another week, help us to look back with gratitude on all the way by which Thou hast led us, and on all the care and kindness Thou hast shown towards us. Make us truly thankful, we beseech Thee, for the preservation of our lives and the supply of our daily wants; for health of body and soundness of mind; for the comforts of domestic peace and social intercourse; for strength and skill to labour in our callings, and for whatever success our labours may have attained;—above all, for Thine unwearied patience in bearing with our oft-repeated sins and provocations, and Thine unspeakable mercy in continuing to us the means of grace and the hope of glory.

O Lord our God, who art long-suffering and full of compassion; who waitest to be gracious, and willest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn to Thee and live; let Thy goodness lead us to repentance. Humble us while we think of all the evil we have done, and of all the good we have omitted in the days that are past. Teach us to reflect, with godly sorrow and contrition of heart, on the time we have wasted, the talents we have abused,

the privileges and opportunities we have neglected; on all our past ingratitude for Thy goodness, and distrust of Thy promises, and disobedience to Thy commandments. Help us, under a deep conviction of our sinfulness, to put our trust in Thy well-beloved Son, in whom alone we have redemption through His blood. And for His sake may it please Thee to bestow upon us the pardon of our manifold offences, and the promised grace of Thy Holy Spirit; that, being restored to the enjoyment of Thy favour, and renewed in holiness after Thine image, we may bring forth fruits meet for repentance, and live to the praise and glory of Thy name.

O God, who hast made our days as an handbreadth, so that our age is as nothing before Thee, impress us with a sense of our frailty. So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom; and while week after week is swiftly gliding away, dispose us to walk circumspectly, redeeming the time, and to give heed to the things which belong unto our peace before they are hid from our eyes. Let the darkness and silence of the coming night admonish us of the time when we shall be laid upon a bed of death, and carried to the place appointed for all living. And lest that time should come upon us unawares, before the great business of life has been accomplished, teach us to be sober, watchful, and prayerful; and to do with all our might whatsoever our hand findeth, for the advancement of Thy glory, the good of our fellow-men, and the furtherance of

our own spiritual welfare; and grant that after having done and suffered Thy will upon the earth, we may depart in peace, and may have an entrance ministered to us abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

To Thy fatherly care, O God, we commit ourselves, and all who are near and dear to us, this night. Grant us refreshing sleep under the shadow of Thy wings; and, if it please Thee, spare us in Thy good providence to see the light of Thy holy day, and fit us for the profitable discharge of its solemn duties.

Hear our intercessions, we beseech Thee, for those whom we ought to remember at a throne of grace. Bestow Thy favour on our Sovereign the Queen, and grant that her reign may be long and prosperous. Bless our rulers, counsellors, and pastors, and all who are in offices of trust and of authority, and aid them with Thy grace in the work Thou hast assigned to them.

Look down in pity on the sick and the afflicted, and overrule Thy chastening for their eternal good.

Have mercy on all the family of mankind. Diffuse among them the knowledge of Thy Gospel, and bring them to a saving reception of its grace and truth.

These, our humble supplications, we present before Thee, O Thou that hearest prayer. Graciously answer them, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to whom, with Thee, and with the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, for evermore.—Amen.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP.

Second Week.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

GENERAL CONFESSION AND SUPPLICATION.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, who art nigh to all that call on Thee in truth; incline Thine ear, we beseech Thee, to our supplications, and graciously receive the tribute of our praise. Keep us mindful that Thou wilt be sanctified in them that come nigh unto Thee, and that before all the people Thou wilt be glorified. And give us grace, whereby we may be enabled to serve Thee acceptably, with reverence and godly fear.

Thou art worthy, O God, to receive blessing, and honour, and thanksgiving. Thy power hath created us; Thy bounty hath sustained us; Thy patience hath spared us; Thy love hath redeemed us. Blessed be Thou, who daily loadest us with benefits, O God of our salvation.

We confess, O Lord, that we are unworthy to approach Thee, by reason of our manifold offences. For we have been foolish, disobedient, and deceived; we have loved the creature more than the Creator; we have sought the pleasures of earth more than the joys of heaven; we have walked according to the course of this world, fulfilling the desires of our own evil hearts.

O God, who knowest all our foolishness, and from whom our sins are not hid, have mercy upon us after Thy loving-kindness; and, according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies, blot out our transgressions. Forgive us all the evil we have done; condemn us not for all the good we have omitted; but, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, in whom we have redemption through His blood, receive us graciously, and love us freely.

Almighty God, who workest in us to will and to do of Thy good pleasure, give us grace, that we may truly repent of all our sins, and heartily yield ourselves up to Thy service. Let it be the work of our whole lives to obey Thee—the joy of our souls to please Thee—the satisfaction of all our desires, and the fulfilment of all our hopes, to walk with Thee in the comforts of Thy fellowship, and to dwell with Thee in the glories of Thy kingdom.

O God, who art light, and in whom is no darkness at all, shine into our hearts, we beseech Thee, by Thy Holy Spirit, and cause us, in Thy light, clearly to see light. Deliver us from ignorance, error, and

unbelief; dispose us, as children of light and of the day, to renounce the hidden things of dishonesty, and to have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness; enable us to walk in truth and uprightness, in purity and sincerity, before Thee, that our fellowship may be with Thee, the Father, and with Thy Son, Jesus Christ; and that, when the shadows of this life have passed away, we may enjoy the vision of Thy heavenly glory, and may ourselves shine forth, with the brightness of the sun, in Thy kingdom for ever and ever.

Almighty God, who hast spared us in Thy providence to see another return of Thy holy day, make us thankful for this precious season of hallowed rest and spiritual improvement; and enable us by Thy grace to sanctify it, to the honour of Thy name and the good of our own souls. Cause us to rejoice, when it is said unto us, Go ye up into the house of the Lord; and teach us to esteem a day spent in Thy courts as better than a thousand elsewhere. Give grace to all thy ministering servants rightly to divide Thy word of truth; and let their preaching be accompanied with the power and demonstration of Thy Holy Spirit. Draw nigh to those who are necessarily withheld from worshipping Thee in the congregation of Thy people, and make them glad with the light of Thy countenance. Have pity on those who neglect or forsake Thine ordinances; cause them yet to seek Thee whilst Thou art to be found, and to call upon Thee whilst Thou art near.

These, our humble supplications, we present to Thee, in the name of Jesus, Thy beloved Son, who hath taught us to pray, saying—

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

CONFESSION OF IMPERFECTIONS, AND PRAYER FOR GROWTH IN GRACE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast this day permitted us to enjoy the hallowed rest of Thy Sabbath, and to partake of the blessedness of the man whom Thou causest to approach unto Thee, that he may dwell in Thy courts; we give Thee thanks for the privileges Thou hast conferred, and humbly implore the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may be enabled to profit by the use of them.

We bless Thee that we have a great High Priest, who beareth away the iniquity of our holy things; and we beseech Thee to pardon for His sake the

manifold sins and imperfections of our sacred duties. Graciously receive the tribute of our worship, notwithstanding all the wanderings of thought and coldness of affection with which it has been rendered. And grant that the saving truths of Thy Word, though often heard with listlessness and inattention, may be fixed in our memories and impressed upon our hearts, and that as precious seed, sown in a good soil, they may bring forth fruit abundantly to Thy praise.

O our God, we have cause to be ashamed, that hitherto we have profited so little by the lessons of Thy Word and the worship of Thy house. Let them not rise against us to our condemnation; but grant that our growth in knowledge and in grace may henceforth be in some measure answerable to the opportunities and advantages Thou hast afforded us, and that by our continual advancement in godliness we may be enabled to show forth the praises of Him who hath called us out of darkness into His marvellous light.

Almighty Saviour, in whom all fulness dwells, we humbly beseech Thee that it may be given us to receive out of Thy fulness grace sufficient for us; so that, being taught of Thee how we ought to walk and to please God, we may abound therein more and more. Cause us to be filled with the knowledge of Thy will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. Strengthen our faith; enliven our hope; increase our love; perfect our repentance. Suffer us not to rest satisfied with present attainments; but carry us

still forward in Thy ways, until we are fit to be translated to that better country, where we shall see Thee face to face, and being fully conformed to Thine image, shall love Thee supremely, rejoice in Thee triumphantly, and celebrate Thy praises for ever.

We pray for all our brethren of mankind, that they may be brought to the knowledge of Thy truth. Be merciful to the land in which we dwell. Multiply Thy blessings on our Sovereign and her family. Be gracious to all who minister in holy things, that they may watch for souls as those who must give account. Visit in mercy all the children of affliction; supply their wants; relieve their sufferings; give unto them patience and submission to Thy blessed will; and in Thy good time deliver them from all their troubles.

Take us, we beseech Thee, and all who are dear to us, into Thy fatherly protection this night. Defend us from danger; grant us quiet sleep; and, if it please Thee, spare us to the morrow, that we may, with renewed vigour, do Thee faithful service.

Graciously hear us, O God, and have mercy on us, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our strength, and our Redeemer.—Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR GRACE TO WALK WITH GOD IN OUR SEVERAL CALLINGS.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; continue to us, throughout the course of it, Thy fatherly guidance and protection. Defend us from all danger; keep us from all sin; and so direct and govern us by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may walk in uprightness before Thee, and do always that which is pleasing in Thy sight.

We confess, O God, that we are prone to forget Thee amidst the concerns and business of our daily life, and that we have in many things grievously offended Thee by our wilful disobedience to Thy commandments. Pardon, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our manifold sins and shortcomings in the time that is past; and enable us henceforth more constantly to remember Thee, and with greater diligence and faithfulness to serve Thee.

Help us to enter on the labours of the week in the spirit of those devout exercises in which we were yesterday occupied in Thy house, and of those holy lessons which were addressed to us from Thy Word. Teach us to acknowledge Thee in all our ways, that

Thou mayest direct our paths. Whether we be called to rule or to obey, to teach or to learn, to labour or to suffer, may we be enabled in our several callings to abide with Thee. And whatsoever we do, dispose us to do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.

Father of mercies, receive our humble thanks for all the benefits, temporal and spiritual, which from day to day Thou art graciously bestowing on us; and enable us to show our gratitude, not only by the praises of our lips, but by the cheerful obedience of our hearts and lives.

Graciously hear our intercessions, O God, for all conditions and orders of our fellow-men; for the Queen and all in authority over us, that they may rule as Thy ministers to us for good; for the pastors of Thy flock, that they may be faithful and successful; for our friends and kindred, that it may please Thee to remember them for good, and to visit them with Thy salvation; for those who are in adversity and affliction, that they may be blessed with the comforts of Thy Word and Spirit; and for all men, that they may be brought to the knowledge, faith, and obedience of Thy Gospel.

These our humble supplications we present to Thee, O Thou that hearest prayer. Graciously answer them for the sake of Jesus Christ, who hath taught us to pray, saying—

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done

in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

PRAYER FOR TRUST IN GOD.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the sea—our Sun and Shield, our refuge and defence, the strength of our heart, and the Rock of our Salvation—enable us to put our trust in Thee. Teach us with full assurance to look up to Thee as our reconciled God and Father in Christ Jesus, who art willing for His sake to supply our utmost need. And graciously remember Thy Word unto Thy servants, on which Thou hast caused us to hope, that Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed upon Thee.

We confess, O God, that hitherto we have been prone to trust in the creature more than in the Creator. We have leant upon broken reeds, and hewed out empty cisterns. We have turned for support and succour to an arm of flesh. We have looked for guidance to the counsels of earthly wisdom.

And instead of acknowledging Thee in all our ways, we have often walked in the sight of our own eyes, and after the imagination of our own hearts.

Pardon, O God, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, whatever want of confidence we have shown towards Thee; and lead us henceforth by the teaching of Thy Holy Spirit to trust in Thee with all our hearts. Help us to rely on the goodness of Thy providence. Increase our faith in the promises of Thy Word. Dispose us cheerfully to cast upon Thee all our cares, humbly to commit to Thy keeping all our interests, and earnestly to seek the aid of Thy strength and the guidance of Thy wisdom in all our undertakings. Above all, teach us wholly to depend on the merciful provisions of Thy Gospel for the everlasting welfare of our souls. Counting all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord, may we seek to win Christ, and to be found in Him, not having our own righteousness which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, even the righteousness which is of God by faith. Convince us that without Him we can do nothing, but that through His strength we can do all things. And cause us to know Him whom we have believed, so as to be persuaded that He is able to keep unto the great day that which we have committed to Him; and that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate

us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And now, O God, we commend ourselves to Thy care. We will lay ourselves down in peace, and sleep, because Thou only makest us to dwell in safety. Take us, and all who are near and dear to us, now and evermore, under Thy protection. Extend Thy special help and pity to those who are in circumstances of distress. Reveal Thy marvellous light to such as are in darkness. Increase everywhere the number of Thy faithful people; and let all those that trust in Thee rejoice, because with favour Thou wilt compass them as with a shield.

Graciously hear the voice of our supplications, which we offer in the name of Thy well-beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR TEMPORAL MERCIES.

O GOD, who hast taught us to be careful for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, to make our requests known unto Thee; we cast ourselves this morning on Thy care, and humbly ask of Thee those things which are necessary as well for the body as the soul.

Holy Father, we are not worthy to come into Thy sacred presence by reason of our manifold offences, much less to receive any favour at Thy hands. But we put our trust in the merits of Thy beloved Son, who gave Himself as a sacrifice for our sins; and for His sake we earnestly beseech Thee to take away all our iniquity and receive us graciously, and to supply all our need according to Thy glorious riches by Christ Jesus.

O God, who knowest that while we are in this life, we have manifold bodily wants to be supplied, and hast graciously promised to them that seek first Thy kingdom and the righteousness thereof, that all other needful things shall be added to them; grant us such a competent portion of earthly blessings as Thy wisdom seeth to be suitable and expedient for us. We ask of Thee neither poverty nor riches, but food to eat and raiment to put on. Give to us skill and industry to provide for ourselves and for those of our own house who are dependent on us. Bless us in all the works of our hands, that we may have sufficient not to be chargeable, but rather to be helpful to others. And whatsoever in Thy providence Thou sendest, make us to be heartily content with Thy blessed will. Suffer us not in prosperity to forget Thee, or in adversity to think ourselves forgotten of Thee. Teach us to acknowledge and adore Thee in all Thy gifts; and when earthly comforts fail, to joy evermore in the God of our salvation. Above all, grant that our spiritual wants may be more and

more abundantly supplied through the fulness of the blessings of Thy Gospel, to the end that, growing in knowledge and in grace, our souls may be strengthened and nourished unto life eternal.

We pray not only for ourselves, but for our brethren, that it may please Thee to succour and relieve them according to their several necessities. Give food to the hungry, clothing to the naked, instruction to the ignorant, comfort to the sorrowful, health to the sick, and hope to the dying.

Bless our native land with plenty and prosperity. Enrich with Thy favour our Sovereign the Queen. Give to all ranks and conditions of the people such temporal and spiritual blessings as are needful for them. Regard in Thy mercy the whole human race; and bring them to the knowledge and obedience of Thy truth.

Hear us, O God, and grant an answer of peace, for the sake of Thy beloved Son; who hath taught us to pray, saying—

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

TUESDAY EVENING.

PRAYER FOR CONTENTMENT.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who orderest all things in heaven and on earth according to Thy wise counsel, give us grace that we may reverently adore and cheerfully submit to Thy most blessed will. Teach us to acknowledge that Thou art just in all Thy ways, and holy in all Thy works; and although clouds and darkness are about Thee, give us to rejoice that righteousness and judgment are the habitation of Thy throne, and that mercy and truth go before Thy face.

We confess, O God, that we have been slow of heart to recognise the wisdom and goodness of Thy dealings with us; that we have often been discontented with our own condition, and have looked with envy and uncharitableness on the good of others; and that instead of meekly bowing to Thy will, we have, by our repining dispositions and covetous affections, oftentimes rebelled against Thee.

Pardon, O God, wherein we have thus offended Thee. Graciously receive us through the merits of Thy beloved Son, in whom we have redemption through His blood. Blot out for His sake our manifold provocations, and remember our iniquities no more.

Give us grace also, whereby we may be enabled wholly to give ourselves up to Thy disposal. Make us willing that Thou shouldst choose our portion for us. Confirm our faith in the assurance Thou hast given us, that all Thy ways are mercy and truth to such as keep Thy covenant and Thy testimonies, and that all things work together for good to them that love Thee. Grant us deliverance from anxious cares, and envious tempers, and inordinate affections. And teach us in whatsoever state we are, therewith to be content; that everywhere, and in all things, we may be instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

O God, who hast prepared for us in heaven a better and more enduring substance than can be found on earth; dispose us to seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth at Thy right hand; and enable us so to look, not at the things which are seen and temporal, but at the things which are unseen and eternal, that we may bear patiently all present hardships, and may reckon them unworthy to be compared with the glory which shall hereafter be revealed in us.

Father of mercies, we thankfully acknowledge Thy goodness to us throughout the past day; and during this night we humbly commit ourselves, and all whom we love, to Thy fatherly protection. Suffer no evil to befall us, nor any plague to come nigh our dwelling.

We pray for the several members of this house-

hold, that they may prosper in all things and be in health; above all, that their souls may prosper. Grant that the children may be trained up in Thy fear; and that the servants may be enabled to honour and serve Thee in the station Thou hast assigned to them.

We pray for the sick, the sorrowful, and the dying, that it may please Thee to comfort and support them, and to grant them a happy issue out of all their troubles.

We pray for the whole family of mankind, that Thou wouldst mercifully enlighten and convert them, and bless them in Christ Jesus with spiritual and heavenly blessings.

Incline Thine ear, O God, to our supplications, which we offer in the name of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and only Saviour.—Amen.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR FAITH IN CHRIST.

O THOU that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come. We thank Thee that we have a great High Priest, who ever liveth to make intercession for us. And in His name we earnestly beseech Thee to pardon our sins, to help our infirmities, and to bestow upon us whatsoever things Thou

knowest in Thy wisdom to be needful or expedient for us.

Blessed be Thou, O God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hast blessed us in Him with all spiritual blessings. Grant that we may in everything be enriched by Him, so as to be complete in Christ. And to this end convince us of our need of Him; show us His divine fulness and His sufficiency for our spiritual wants; cause us to be persuaded in our hearts that there is no salvation in any other; and dispose us to receive and rest on him alone, as able and willing to save us unto the uttermost.

Lord, we believe; help Thou our unbelief. Pardon the weakness and unsteadfastness of our faith. Make it more firm, and lively, and effectual; that we may be filled with all joy and peace in believing, and may be fruitful in every good work.

God of all grace, enable us this day, and all the days of our sojourning in the body, to live by faith in the Son of God, who loved us, and gave Himself for us. Give us grace continually to abide in Him, that we may bear much fruit. And whatsoever we do, in word or deed, dispose us to do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God, even the Father, by Him.

Graciously hear our intercessions, we beseech Thee, for those whom we ought to remember at Thy throne of grace. Bestow Thy favour on all our beloved friends. Impart relief and comfort to the afflicted.

Instruct the ignorant; reclaim the erring; build up Thy saints in their most holy faith.

Bless our Queen, and all in authority over us. Extend Thy favour and protection to our country. Bless Thy whole Church throughout the world. Watch over Thy flock wherever they be scattered; gather in both Jews and Gentiles into Thy fold; and hasten the time when there shall be one fold and one Shepherd.

These, our humble supplications, we present to Thee, in the name and through the mediation of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

PRAYER FOR LOVE TO GOD.

WHOM have we, O God, in heaven but Thee? and there is none upon earth that we desire besides Thee. Our flesh and our heart faileth; but Thou art the strength of our heart, and our portion for ever.

We worship thee as the greatest and best of Beings, the perfection of all excellence, and the source of all goodness. And we beseech Thee to manifest Thyself to us, in the adorable attributes of Thy character, and in the exceeding abundance of Thy tender mercies, so that we may be led more heartily to love Thee, and more worthily to magnify Thy blessed name.

We acknowledge, O God, that our hearts have been estranged from Thee; that we have been regardless of Thy claims, indifferent to Thine excellencies, and unthankful for Thy benefits; that we have allowed the vanities of the world to rob Thee of our homage and affection; that we have preferred the indulgence of our sinful desires to the enjoyment of Thy favour and loving-kindness, which are better than life.

Merciful Father, who hast given Thine own Son to be the propitiation for our sins, grant us for His sake Thy mercy to forgive us, and Thy grace to help us according to our need. Pardon all the defects of our

love to Thee, and all the excesses of our love to earthly things. Turn our inclinations and affections from those vain objects which would draw away our hearts from Thee. Give to us clear views of Thine excellency; impress us with a lively sense of Thy goodness. Above all, teach us to comprehend, with all saints, the breadth, and length, and depth, and height of Thine immeasurable love in our redemption. And cause us to love Thee, who hast so loved us, with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our mind, and with all our strength, and to show our love by keeping Thy commandments.

God of all grace, without whom we can do nothing, enable us to continue in Thy love; and cause our love to abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that we may approve things that are excellent; that we may prefer Thy favour above our chief joy; that we may delight to do thy blessed will; that we may be filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ unto the praise and glory of our God.

Father of mercies, we give Thee special thanks for what of Thy love Thou hast this day conferred upon us. And we beseech Thee, during this night, to take us and all who are dear to us under Thy protection.

Bestow Thy blessing on the children of this family. Keep them from the snares and dangers of an evil world; and cause them to grow in knowledge and in grace.

Regard with Thy favour the servants of this house-

hold, and enable them, in their appointed stations, faithfully to serve and honour Thee, their Master in heaven.

Visit in Thy mercy the sick and the afflicted; provide for the destitute; deliver the oppressed; prepare the dying for their change.

Let Thy way, O God, be known upon the earth, and Thy saving health among all nations. Gather in the dispersed of Israel, with the fulness of the Gentiles, into Thy fold. And add to Thy Church daily such as shall be saved.

Mercifully hear us, O God, and accept of us, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR THE MORTIFICATION OF SIN.

O LORD our God, whose name is Holy, and in whose presence evil cannot dwell; we bow ourselves before Thee this morning under a deep sense of our sinfulness, and humbly implore of Thee mercy to pardon, and grace to help us according to our need.

O our God, we are ashamed to lift up our faces unto Thee; for our consciences accuse us, and our sins witness against us. We confess that our hearts are corrupt and depraved, and that there is no sound-

ness in us. We acknowledge that there is a law in our members, warring against the law of our mind, and bringing us into captivity to the law of sin. We deeply lament that when we would do good, evil is present with us; and that through the power of the sins that do beset us, we are often and easily turned from Thy ways, and led to do that which is hateful in Thy sight.

Father of mercies, we beseech Thee to have compassion on us. Be pleased, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son, to blot out all our sins; and to bestow upon us the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, whereby we may be wholly renewed after Thine image, and may be enabled more and more to die unto sin and live unto righteousness. Grant that our old man may be crucified with Christ, that the body of sin may be destroyed. And like as Christ was raised up from the dead, so may we also walk in newness of life. Suffer not sin any longer to reign in our mortal bodies, that we should obey it in the lusts thereof. Enable us to crucify the flesh with all its evil desires and affections. And grant, that being made free from sin, and having become servants to God, we may have our fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

Almighty God, who givest power to the faint, and increasest strength to them that have no might, we look to Thee for countenance and aid in whatsoever duties or trials may await us. Fulfil to us now and always Thy promise, that, as our day, so shall our

strength be. Arm us with might to resist every temptation, and to lay aside every besetting sin. And stablish our hearts in every good word and work, that we may stand perfect and complete in all Thy will.

Bestow Thy favour, we beseech Thee, on our friends and kindred, especially on the children of this family. Bless them, and keep them, and make Thy face to shine upon them. Extend Thy pity to the sick and the afflicted. Comfort the mourners. Support and prepare the dying.

Bless and long preserve our Sovereign the Queen. Prosper all the interests of our country. Further the peace and welfare of all nations. And hasten the time when all the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ.

Graciously hear us, O God, and accept of us, through Jesus Christ, our only Mediator, who hath taught us to pray, saying—

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING.

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT.

O THOU that dwellest in the heavens, unto Thee we lift up our souls. We thank Thee for the encouragement Thou hast given us to come with boldness unto the throne of grace; and for the assurance that if men, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto their children, much more will our heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him.

Grant us, we pray Thee, this great gift, which we ask in the name of Thy well-beloved Son. Let Thy Spirit be shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Let Him be unto us a Spirit of light and truth, to guide us to the clear understanding of Thy mind and will; a Spirit of power to quicken and convert us, and to strengthen us with all needful might in the inner man; a Spirit of comfort to cheer us in our times of trouble; a Spirit of holiness to purify us more and more, and to make us fruitful in every good work.

Pardon, O God, wherein we have offended Thee by grieving or resisting Thy Spirit. Suffer us not to do despite unto Him, lest He should cease to strive with us any more. Cast us not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from us. But grant that He may abide with us continually, making us to

grow in knowledge and in grace, and filling us with His blessed and holy fruits, which are in all goodness and righteousness and truth.

O Thou God of all grace, who hast called us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ, and hast given us in Him exceeding great and precious promises, we earnestly pray that Thy Holy Spirit may witness with our spirits that we are Thy children. And we beseech Thee to seal us with that Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance, until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of Thy glory.

Hear our intercessions, O God, in behalf of all our brethren of mankind. Pour out Thy Holy Spirit upon all flesh, that the wilderness may become a fruitful field, and that the whole earth may be filled with Thy glory. Pour out Thy Holy Spirit upon all the Churches, that Thy work may be more and more revived in them. Impart the consolations of Thy Spirit to all whom Thou hast visited with affliction, that they may be strengthened, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness. Give unto all Thy people, we beseech Thee, the grace of Thy Holy Spirit in such measures as Thy divine wisdom seeth to be needful for building them up in their most holy faith, and for enabling them steadfastly to abide with Thee in the stations which Thy providence hath allotted to them.

And now, O God, we humbly commend ourselves,

and all whom we love, to Thy fatherly care. Grant us refreshing sleep; shield us from all evil; and bring us in peace to the light of a new day.

Graciously hear us, O God, and have mercy upon us, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

FRIDAY MORNING.

PRAYER FOR DIVINE HELP AND GUIDANCE THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

ALMIGHTY GOD,* who dwellest in the light to which no man can approach; in whose presence there is no night, in the light of whose countenance there is perpetual day; we, Thy servants, whom Thou hast preserved during the past night, and who live by Thy power, desire this morning to bless Thee for the defence of Thy watchful providence; and humbly pray Thee to grant that this day, and all the days of our life, may be holy and peaceable, healthful to our bodies and profitable to our souls.

O Lord our God, we are sinful creatures, unworthy of Thy favour; but we are sorrowful and repenting. And though Thou hast just cause to be angry with us, yet in Christ Jesus hath Thine anger been turned away. Be pleased, O God, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, to blot out all our sins from Thy remem-

* From JEREMY TAYLOR.

brance, and to heal our souls that we may sin against Thee no more. Open our eyes that we may see our infirmities; make us watchful against them; enable us to amend them; and give us perfect understanding in the way of godliness, that we may walk in it all the days of our pilgrimage. Dispose us to be faithful and diligent in our several callings; cheerful and zealous in duty; patient in trial; charitable in temper; pure and sincere in speech; fervent in prayer, and ready to every good work. And whether we eat or drink, or whatsoever we do, enable us to do all to Thy glory.

Let Thy good providence continually watch over us, that we may be delivered from all evil. Enable us so to spend this day, that it may be profitable both to ourselves and others, and may leave with us no sorrow or evil conscience at its close. And grant that we may, throughout our whole life, be so directed and governed by Thy Holy Spirit, that when the time of our short abode on earth is ended, we may die in Thy favour, and rest in a holy hope, and finally obtain the joys of a blessed resurrection.

Regard with Thy favour our family, our neighbourhood, our country, our Queen, and all in authority over us. Bless Thy Church Universal. Unite the hearts of all Thy faithful people as the heart of one man in the belief and love of Thy truth. And hasten the prevalence of Thy Kingdom among all nations.

God of all comfort, have pity on the afflicted;

assuage their griefs; relieve their sufferings; and overrule Thy chastening for their good.

Graciously hear and answer us, O Lord, according to the fulness of Thy mercy in Christ Jesus; who hath taught us to pray, saying—

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

FRIDAY EVENING.

PRAYER FOR THE DIVINE FORGIVENESS AND GUARDIANSHIP.

ETERNAL GOD, Father of men and angels,* by whose care and providence we are preserved and blessed, comforted and assisted; we heartily thank Thee for the many temporal and spiritual mercies Thou hast bestowed upon us this day. Suffer us not to be forgetful of Thy benefits; and though we are not worthy of the least of them, be pleased still to remember us for good.

* From JEREMY TAYLOR.

Pardon, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, the sins and follies we have this day committed against Thee; the unprofitableness of our services, the strength of our passions, the uncharitableness of our tempers, the rashness of our words, the vanity and evil of our actions. Alas! O God, how long shall we confess our sins, and pray against them, while yet we fall under them? O suffer it to be so no more. Let us never return to those iniquities of which we are ashamed, and which bring sorrow and death. Give us a command over our evil inclinations, a perfect hatred of sin, and a love to Thee above all the desires of this world. Let it be the great employment of our lives to honour and serve Thee. And let our rejoicing be the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have our conversation in the world.

O Thou Keeper of Israel who never slumberest, watch over us, and over all who are near and dear to us, this night. Shield us from all harm; keep us from all sin; and whether we sleep or wake, let us live with Thee. Fulfil Thy promise, that Thou wilt never leave us nor forsake us. Enable us to pass the time of our sojourning in Thy faith, fear, and love; and when we die, receive us into Thy hands, O holy and ever-blessed Jesus, that we may dwell in Thy presence, and behold Thy face, and sing praises unto Thy name for ever.

We implore Thy blessing on the children of this

family. Teach them to remember Thee in the days of youth; and keep them by Thy power through faith unto salvation.

Enable the servants of this household, we beseech Thee, to show all good fidelity in their appointed stations. And whatsoever they do, dispose them to do it heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto man.

Look with compassion on the sick and the afflicted. Give them support and comfort in their trials; and overrule Thy fatherly chastening to the everlasting welfare of their souls.

Bless our Queen, our rulers, and our country. Pardon our many national sins; continue to regard us with Thy favour; and make us a people fearing Thee and working righteousness.

Bless Thy whole Church. Unite all Christians in the bonds of a common faith and love. And speedily fill the whole earth with Thy glory.

Give ear, O God, to our humble supplications, for the sake of our only Mediator, Jesus Christ; to whom, with Thee and with the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory for evermore.—Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE GOODNESS OF GOD, AND PRAYER FOR LOVE TO MEN.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, who hast watched over us during the past night, and hast spared us in the enjoyment of many blessings to another day; we render praise and thanks to Thee for all Thy goodness. We acknowledge Thee as the Father of lights, from whom cometh down every good and every perfect gift; who forgivest our iniquities, who healest our diseases, who redeemest our life from destruction, who satisfiest our mouth with good things, who crownest us with loving-kindness and tender mercies.

Pardon, O God, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our past ingratitude for Thy benefits. Impress us henceforth with a more lively sense of them, that our souls may be stirred up to bless Thy holy name. Fill us with love to Thee, who hast first loved us. And teach us, as becometh the children of so many mercies, to be kind and compassionate towards our fellow-men, loving them out of a pure and fervent heart, and doing them good as we have opportunity.

Above all, give us a deep and abiding sense of the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge; and grant

that it may constrain us by Thy grace to walk in love, as Christ also loved us. Dispose us to bear one another's burdens, so as to fulfil the law of Christ. Help us to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that it is more blessed to give than to receive; and make us willing, if need be, to deny ourselves, so as the more abundantly to supply the wants of others. Teach us, as much as lieth in us, to live peaceably with all men, recompensing to no man evil for evil, but overcoming evil with good. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil-speaking be put away from us, with all malice; and make us kind, tender-hearted, and forgiving, even as Thou for Christ's sake forgivest us.

We implore Thy blessing on all the members of this family, that they may be kindly affectioned one towards another, and may find how good and pleasant a thing it is to dwell together as brethren in unity.

We pray for the welfare and happiness of our Sovereign; for the peace and prosperity of our country; for the speedy enlightenment and conversion of all nations.

We beseech Thee to look with compassion on the afflicted, and to grant them all needful relief and consolation.

And now, O God, we commend ourselves to Thee. Watch over us this day; deliver us from all danger; aid us in all our lawful occupations; and keep our souls unspotted from the world.

Grant these requests, O Father, we beseech Thee,

which we humbly present in the name of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

SATURDAY EVENING.

PRAYER FOR PERSEVERANCE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, by whose good hand upon us we have hitherto been guided in our pilgrimage, we give Thee praise and thanks for all the blessings which during the week now drawing to a close, and throughout the whole of our past life, Thou hast conferred upon us. We acknowledge that we are not worthy of the least of all Thy benefits. But so much the more do we magnify Thy name for having dealt so bountifully with us.

Pardon, O God, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our oft-repeated trespasses and sins, whereby we have provoked Thee to withdraw Thy mercies from us; and give us grace, that henceforth we may be enabled

to bring forth fruits meet for repentance, and to show our gratitude for Thine unceasing goodness by a cheerful and constant obedience to Thy holy will.

Blessed Lord, who art of power to stablish us according to Thy Gospel, strengthen our hearts that we fall not from our steadfastness. Hold Thou us up, and so we shall be safe. Suffer us no more to wander from Thy ways, or to grow weary in keeping Thy commandments. Whatever of sin or of infirmity Thou seest in us, O Lord forgive it, and help us to overcome it. Whatever of good Thy grace may have wrought in us, be pleased to confirm and complete it unto the day of Christ. Make us watchful against temptation; strong in faith; diligent in duty; patient in trial; and fervent in prayer. Teach us to endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ; and to take unto us the whole armour of God, that we may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand.

O Thou that savest by Thy right hand them that put their trust in Thee from those that rise up against them, grant us defence and deliverance, we beseech Thee, from all the enemies that war against the soul. Let Thy divine power so strengthen our weakness, that neither the craft of the devil, nor the allurements of the world, nor the evil desires of our own hearts, may prevail against us, but that we may in all things be more than conquerors through Him that loved us. Keep us steadfast and immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord; and enable us to be

faithful unto death, that we may receive the crown of life.

Hear our intercessions, we beseech Thee, in behalf of all our brethren of mankind. We pray for the nations that are sitting in gross darkness, that it may please Thee to bring them into Thy marvellous light. We pray for Thy Church Universal, and more especially for the Church of our fathers, that truth and godliness may flourish in it more and more, and that its members, united in the bonds of love, may dwell together as brethren in unity. We pray for those whom Thou hast visited with affliction, that it may please Thee to comfort and relieve them, and to overrule the trials they are now enduring for the everlasting health and welfare of their souls. We pray for the several members of this family, and for all who by the ties of kindred are connected with them, that they may be blessed with the joys of Thy favour, and sanctified by the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, and kept by Thy power through faith unto salvation.

And now, O God, we beseech Thee to watch over us, and over all who are dear to us, this night. Preserve us from all evil; grant us refreshing sleep; and if it please Thee, spare us to enjoy the blessings, and fit us to discharge the duties, of Thy holy day.

These, our humble supplications, we present in the name and through the mediation of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP.

Sacramental.

MORNING OF A SACRAMENTAL FAST DAY.

LORD GOD, merciful and gracious, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, but hast promised pardon, through Thy beloved Son, to such as truly repent and believe on Him; we humble ourselves before Thy holy presence under a deep sense of our unworthiness, and earnestly plead for mercy to forgive us, and for grace to help us according to our need.

We confess, O God, that we are fallen and sinful creatures. Our hearts are naturally corrupt and depraved; and to our original sin we have added many actual transgressions. We have broken Thy holy laws. We have been unthankful for Thy benefits. We have slighted alike the calls of Thy Word, and the chastenings and warnings of Thy providence. We have loved the creature more than the Creator, and have preferred our own ease and pleasure to Thy glory,

We acknowledge that we have sinned, not only against Thee, but also against our brethren of mankind, by pride and envy, by malice and uncharitableness, by withholding good from them when it was in our power to do it, instead of loving our neighbours as ourselves.

Nor have we been less guilty against our own souls. We have harboured evil thoughts; cherished impure affections; suffered our hearts to be overcharged with the cares, and vanities, and pleasures of this life, and neglected the things which belong unto our peace.

Behold! we are vile, what shall we answer Thee? Innumerable evils have compassed us about; our iniquities have taken hold upon us, so that we are not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of our head, therefore our heart faileth us. Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver us; O Lord, make haste to help us.

We plead Thy promise, that if we confess our sins, Thou art faithful and just to forgive them, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. And earnestly do we beseech Thee, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour and Intercessor, to turn away from us the terrors of Thy wrath, and to bless us with the light of Thy countenance.

O most merciful God, who of Thy great love hast given Thine only begotten Son to be the propitiation for our sins, and hast declared Thine acceptance of His sacrifice, in that Thou hast raised Him from the dead; increase, we beseech Thee, our faith in Him; and grant that Thy Holy Spirit, while convincing us

of sin, may enable us to take unto our own hearts the blessed assurance of Thy forgiveness and fatherly kindness through Jesus Christ our Lord; so that we may be filled with all peace and joy in believing, and may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Give us grace also, whereby we may be enabled to bring forth fruits meet for repentance. Grant that, with godly sorrow for the past, and with sincere purposes of obedience for the future, we may think upon our ways, and turn our feet unto Thy testimonies, and make haste to keep Thy commandments. Bestow upon us the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may be enlightened in the knowledge of Thy Word, renewed in holiness after Thine image, strengthened with all might for the doing of Thy blessed will, and made to abound more and more in the fruit of the Spirit, which is in all goodness and righteousness and truth.

We give Thee thanks for the prospect Thou art affording us of showing forth the death of our Redeemer, and partaking of the symbols of His broken body and shed blood. Aid us in all our preparatory exercises of prayer, and self-examination, and repentance. Search us, O God, and know our hearts; try us, and know our thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in us, and lead us in the way everlasting.

Meet with us, we beseech Thee, in Thy courts, and help us to worship Thee in spirit and in truth. Enable Thy ministering servants to speak to us a word

in season; and grant that their preaching may be accompanied with the demonstration and power of Thy Holy Spirit.

Let Thy Word everywhere have free course and be glorified, and hasten the time when it shall be preached throughout the whole world.

We commend our friends to Thy friendship; our benefactors to Thy bounty; our enemies to Thy forgiveness; and all the children of adversity to Thy tender compassion.

Graciously hear us, O God, and have mercy upon us. For we do not present our supplications before Thee for our own righteousnesses, but for Thy great mercies, and in the name of Thy beloved Son, who hath taught us to pray, saying—

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

EVENING OF A SACRAMENTAL FAST DAY.

O THOU high and lofty One, who inhabitest eternity, whose name is Holy; look down, in the greatness of Thy compassion, on us Thine unworthy children assembled before Thee. Graciously hear the confessions and prayers, which we have this day made to Thee in the name of Thy beloved Son. Work in us by the grace of Thy Holy Spirit that broken and penitent heart which Thou despisest not. And mercifully fulfil to us Thy promise, that Thou wilt not contend for ever, neither wilt Thou be always wroth, lest the spirit should fail before Thee, and the souls which Thou hast made.

O God, with whom there is forgiveness that Thou mayest be feared, comfort our hearts, we beseech Thee, with a full persuasion of Thy fatherly mercy in Jesus Christ our Saviour; and let a sense of Thine undeserved goodness excite in us a holy dread of offending Thee, and an earnest desire in all things to obey Thee. As becometh those to whom much hath been forgiven, may we love much, and show the sincerity of our love by a cheerful and steadfast conformity to Thy commandments. And being redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, may we no longer live as if we were our own, but yield up ourselves entirely to Thy service, and glorify Thee in our body and in our spirit, which are Thine.

We thank Thee for the prospect we now have of joining in that holy ordinance in which our Redeemer's sufferings are commemorated, and the precious blessings purchased by His death are represented and sealed to His faithful people. We acknowledge our unworthiness of so great a privilege. We look back with humiliation and regret on the many past communions we have misimproved. We deeply lament that our holy impressions at the Table of the Lord have so often been effaced, and that our solemn vows have so often been forgotten. O Lord, lay not these sins to our charge. And now that Thou art once more inviting us to sit down at Thy table, enable us to go thither with more simplicity and godly sincerity than hitherto; with a livelier faith, a warmer love, a deeper penitence; with hearts more humbly dependent on Thy grace, and more firmly devoted to Thy service.

To this end may it please Thee to bless unto us the exercises in which we have this day been engaged, and the instructions which have been addressed to us from the Scriptures. Let not Thy Word return unto Thee void. May its precious truths abide in our minds, and its holy fruits be manifest in our conduct.

And now, O God, we cast ourselves on Thy care. Watch over us during the darkness of the coming night. Grant us quiet sleep, and, if it please Thee, preserve us to see the light of another day.

Bestow Thy favour on our friends and fellow-

worshippers. Cause them to see the good of Thy chosen, and visit them with Thy salvation.

Bless our Queen and all the Royal Family. Encompass them with the shield of Thy protection, and bestow upon them Thy loving-kindness, which is better than life.

Bless all ranks and conditions of men among us. Enable them faithfully to serve and honour Thee in whatsoever calling or station Thou hast allotted to them.

Impart all needful consolation and support to the poor, the sick, the sorrowful, and the dying. Instruct the ignorant; arouse the careless; strengthen the weak; confirm the wavering. Diffuse the glorious light of Thy Gospel among those who are sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death; and hasten the time when all the kingdoms of the world shall become the kingdoms of the Lord and of His Christ.

Graciously hear our humble supplications, and do to us abundantly above all that we ask or think, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.—Amen.

MORNING OF A COMMUNION SABBATH.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hast given us through Him free access to Thy presence, and art graciously inviting us, on this Thy holy day, to the worship of Thy house and the fellowship of Thy table; bestow upon us the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may serve Thee acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

Impress our minds, we beseech Thee, with a just sense of all the adorable attributes of Thy character. Fill our hearts with lively gratitude for the countless and unceasing bounties of Thy Providence. Above all, let our souls be stirred up to bless Thee for the riches of Thy grace, and to give unto Thee the glory that is due for Thine inestimable love in our redemption.

We magnify and praise Thy holy name for having so loved the world as to give Thine only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. We thank Thee that He was made flesh and dwelt among us; that He fulfilled all righteousness, and went about doing good; that He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, being wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities; that He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and being by the right hand of God exalted, received for us of the

Father the promise of the Holy Spirit; that, touched with the feeling of our infirmities, He ever liveth to make intercession for us, and is able to save them to the uttermost who come unto Thee through Him; and that, having gone to prepare a place for His people, He will come again to receive them unto Himself, that where He is there they may be also.

What shall we render unto Thee, O Lord, for all these Thy benefits towards us? We will take the cup of salvation, and call upon Thy holy name, and pay our vows to Thee in the presence of Thy people. O Lord, we will praise Thee; though Thou wast angry with us, Thine anger is turned away, and Thou hast comforted us. Thou hast delivered our souls from death, our eyes from tears, and our feet from falling. Help us to walk before Thee in the land of the living, seeking our rest in Thee, who dealest bountifully with us, and presenting our bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God, which is our reasonable service.

Blessed be Thy name, O God of our salvation, for that renewed opportunity Thou art giving us of observing the holy sacrament of the Supper. Prepare us, we beseech Thee, for this ordinance, according to the preparation of the sanctuary. Confirm our faith in those great mysteries of redeeming grace which we are this day to show forth. Inspire us with ardent love to the Saviour. Work in us unfeigned sorrow for our sins. Give us sincere and humble purposes of new obedience, that we may with

a true heart devote ourselves to His service. And enable us, while partaking of this ordinance, to feed by faith on the blessings represented by it, so as to promote our spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

Bestow Thy favour on all our fellow-worshippers, and grant that they may be united to us in the bonds of charity, as becometh those who are brethren in the Lord. Be very gracious to Thy ministering servants, and give them richly to enjoy in their own souls the comforts and blessings they are honoured to dispense to others. Supply the lack of ordinances to those who are withheld by infirmity or affliction from worshipping in Thy house, and communicating at Thy table. Visit them also with the comforts of Thy fellowship, and satisfy their souls with Thy goodness. Bless Thy Church Universal throughout the world. Let grace, mercy, and peace be multiplied unto all that love the Lord Jesus in sincerity.

And now, O God, our hope is in Thee. If Thy presence go not with us, carry us not up hence. Be with us in all the duties that await us. Make Thy grace sufficient for us. And grant that all the words of our mouths, and all the meditations of our hearts, may be acceptable in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and only Saviour.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our

daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

EVENING OF A COMMUNION SABBATH.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of mercies, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift, we bless and praise Thy name for all Thy benefits. We thank Thee that Thou hast not only provided for us all things needful to sustain us in the present life, but that Thou art pleased also to feed us with that spiritual food, whereby our souls may be nourished unto life eternal.

Fill our hearts with gratitude, we beseech Thee, for what we have this day seen, and heard, and tasted, and handled, of the Word of Life; for Jesus Christ, who hath been evidently set forth crucified among us; and for the memorials and pledges of His dying love, of which we have been privileged to partake. May every good impression made upon us by the solemnities of a communion season be deepened and confirmed. May the vows and resolutions we have formed at the table of the Lord be remembered and fulfilled. May the spiritual nourishment and

comfort we have there received strengthen us for the duties and trials which await us, so that we may be enabled to go onwards on our way with enlarged and rejoicing hearts.

Help us, O God, in all things to walk worthy of the good confession we have witnessed before many brethren. Suffer us not to return to those sins which we have solemnly renounced as the hateful and accursed things that crucified the Lord of glory. Let us not be neglectful of those duties which we have promised to render to Him, as His ransomed and peculiar people. Enable us always to bear about with us in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus may be made manifest in our mortal flesh. And may the love of Christ constrain us to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto Him who died for us and rose again.

Gracious Lord, without whom we can do nothing, but through whom we can do all things, restrain us from self-confidence and presumption, and teach us humbly and faithfully to trust in Thee. Hold Thou up our goings in Thy paths, that our footsteps slip not. Enable us to be steadfast and immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord; that when our course in this life is ended, we may be admitted to the supper of the Lamb, and may drink wine new with Him in the kingdom of His Father.

We commend to Thy favour our friends and fellow-worshippers, and more especially those who, on this occasion, have joined with us in commemorating

the Saviour's death. May their hearts be comforted, being knit together in love. And as they have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so may they walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him, stablished in the faith, and abounding therein with thanksgiving. Be gracious to the young; confirm them in their principles, and keep them from all the evil that is in the world. Support the aged under the burden of their infirmities, and cheer them with the persuasion that Thou wilt never leave them nor forsake them.

Abundantly bless Thy ministering servants who have dispensed to us the word and bread of life. Make them the instruments of much good to the souls of others; and grant that in all things their own souls may prosper.

Bestow Thy blessing on Thy whole Church throughout the world. Enlarge, and purify, and stablish it more and more. And hasten the time when the fulness of the Gentiles and the dispersed of Israel shall be gathered into Thy fold.

To Thy fatherly care, O God, we commend ourselves, and all who are near and dear to us, this night; beseeching Thee to defend us from all evil, and to bring us in safety to the light of another day.

And now, O God of peace, who broughtest again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant; make us perfect in every good work to do Thy will, working in us that which is well-pleasing

in Thy sight through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever.—Amen.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, for ever.—Amen.

SPECIAL PRAYERS

FOR THE

USE OF SOLDIERS, SAILORS COLONISTS SOJOURNERS IN INDIA AND IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God."—PSALM xx. 7.

"Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord."—PSALM xxvii. 14.

"Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, Thou stillest them."—PSALM lxxxix. 9.

"They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; these see the works of the Lord, and His wonders in the deep. —They cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and He bringeth them out of their distresses. He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so He bringeth them unto their desired haven."—PSALM cvii. 23, 24, 28, 29, 30.

"O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember Thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites."—PSALM xlii. 6.

"From the end of the earth will I cry unto Thee, when my heart is overwhelmed."—PSALM lxi. 2.

"How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? If I forget Thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember Thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth."—PSALM cxxxvii. 4, 5, 6.

These SPECIAL PRAYERS may be introduced at the close of the middle Prayer in any of the FORMS of SOCIAL WORSHIP, or may, for the sake of brevity, be substituted for the middle Prayer.

SPECIAL PRAYERS.

PRAYERS FOR THE USE OF SOLDIERS.

I.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who in Thy providence hast called us to the duties and dangers of a military life, enable us therein steadfastly to walk with Thee. Help us, we beseech Thee, to be loyal to our Queen, obedient to our officers, and valiant for our country. Impart to us strength for the endurance of toils and hardships, patience and constancy amid trials and privations, courage in perils, hope and support in death. Above all, make us earnest and vigilant in striving against the enemies of our souls. Increase our faith, that though in ourselves weak, we may be able to do all things through Christ who strengtheneth us. Preserve us from those spiritual dangers to which in our calling we are peculiarly exposed; from the snares of idleness, the seductions of wicked example, the temptations of lewdness, in-

temperance, and profaneness. Deliver us from every evil work, and keep us unto Thy heavenly kingdom.

We commend our friends and relatives to Thy care. Remember them, O God, and remember us, with the favour that Thou bearest unto Thy people, and visit us and them with Thy salvation.

Graciously hear us, and pardon, and accept of us, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

II.

HEAVENLY FATHER, we, Thine unworthy children, called to bear arms in the service of our country, desire to be deeply humbled in Thy sight, beholding in the very weapons of our warfare an evidence of our fallen and sinful state, and acknowledging that wars and fightings proceed from the lusts of the carnal mind, which is enmity against Thee.

We give Thee thanks that Thy beloved Son hath come into this rebellious world as the Prince of Peace, and hath made peace for us, who were Thine enemies, by the blood of His cross; that now by His Word and Spirit He is teaching us to live in peace and charity with one another; and that He hath encouraged us to look for the blessed period, when, through the universal prevalence of His Gospel, harmony and brotherhood shall reign among the nations, and wars shall cease unto the ends of the earth.

While it is yet needful to practise the art of war, we pray, O God, that we may be enabled so to do in a manner becoming good soldiers of Jesus Christ; seeking to maintain always consciences void of offence towards Thee and towards men; rendering unto all their due, fear to whom fear, and honour to whom honour is due; endeavouring as much as lieth in us, to live peaceably with all men; cheerfully performing the duties of our calling, patiently submitting to its hardships, steadfastly withstanding its temptations, and meeting all its dangers with that true valour which trust in Thee is fitted to inspire.

We commend our absent friends to Thy keeping, and earnestly implore for them and for ourselves the constant care and bounty of Thy providence, and the strengthening and sanctifying grace of Thy Holy Spirit. Fulfil to all of us Thy gracious promise, that Thou wilt never leave us nor forsake us. Guide us by Thy counsel while we live, and afterwards receive us into glory, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

III.

O LORD our God, without whom we can do nothing, but through whom we can do all things; help us by Thy grace to show all good fidelity in the state and calling which Thy providence hath allotted to us. Make us diligent in the performance of all duties, faithful to all trusts, fear-

less in all dangers, ready to yield due obedience to our commanders, not with eye-service as pleasing men, but with singleness of heart as unto Thee. Above all, make us good soldiers of Jesus Christ, following Him whithersoever He may lead us, contending for His cause, and glorying in His cross.

Take us, O God, and all who are dear to us, under Thy constant guardianship and protection. Supply all our need according to Thy glorious riches. Deliver us from all the evils that surround us. Preserve us from the sins that so easily beset us. Enable us to be faithful unto death, that we may receive the crown of life.

Mercifully hear us for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

IV.

TO BE USED DURING A CAMPAIGN.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost according to Thy will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; we, Thine unworthy servants, called to fight the battles of our country, implore Thy gracious countenance and aid in all the duties and trials that await us. Dispose us strictly and cheerfully to obey those rules of discipline to which we are subjected. Gird us with strength to endure every hardship. Arm us with

courage to brave every danger. Defend us alike from all adversities which may befall the body, and from all temptations which may assault and hurt the soul. And, seeing that we go with our life in our hands, and are more exposed than other men to danger and to death, we pray that thou wouldst make us the more earnest in seeking to be at peace with Thee through Jesus Christ, and the more watchful and diligent in preparing for eternity.

We pray for our absent relatives and friends, that it may please Thee to watch over and protect them. Supply their wants, and minister to their comfort. Above all, enrich them with spiritual and heavenly blessings.

Bestow Thy favour on all our officers and comrades. Fit them, we beseech Thee, for the discharge of their several duties. As their day is, so let their strength be.

Look down in mercy on all our afflicted brethren. Restore the sick; heal the wounded; support the dying, and prepare them for their change.

Graciously hear the voice of our supplications, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

V.

TO BE USED DURING A CAMPAIGN.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who rulest over all, and without whose aid no enterprise can prosper; bestow Thy favour upon us, Thine unworthy servants, who, in our country's cause, are now engaged in active warfare. Endue our commanders with energy and wisdom. Inspire our troops with loyalty and valour. Enable all of us patiently to bear the toils, and bravely to encounter the dangers, that may be awaiting us. Encompass us with the shield of Thy protection, and crown our efforts with signal and decisive success.

Father of Mercies and God of all consolation, look down in pity on the wounded and disabled. Relieve their pains, and comfort them in their distresses. Restore them in Thine own good time to health and vigour. Help them to bear Thy chastening with resignation, and overrule it for their spiritual welfare.

Prepare us, O God, for whatever may befall us. Work in us true repentance towards Thee, and unfeigned faith towards the Lord Jesus Christ. Grant us, for His sake, the pardon of all our sins, the sanctifying grace of Thy Spirit, the assurance of Thy love, and the hope of Thy heavenly kingdom. Knowing Him in whom we have believed, may we be enabled

so to commit ourselves and all our interests to Thy care, that whensoever death shall come we may depart in peace.

We pray for all who are near and dear to us. Give Thine angels charge over them, to encamp round about them, and to keep them in all their ways. Provide for their wants. Alleviate their anxieties. Restore us in Thine own good time to their society. But grant, above all, that we and they may meet together, in that better world, where parting is unknown.

Grant these requests, O Father, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

VI.

TO BE USED DURING A CAMPAIGN.

O GOD, the strength of all that put their trust in Thee, our shield in danger, our very present help in trouble, look down with favour on us Thine unworthy servants, exposed in the service of our country to many trials. Keep us mindful that nothing can befall us without Thy divine permission; and give us grace to commit the keeping of our souls to Thee in well-doing, as unto a faithful Creator. While some trust in chariots and some in horses, may we ever remember the name of the Lord our God, and

look up to Thee for encouragement and support in all the hardships and perils of our warfare.

Grant us Thine aid in the performance of those duties which we owe to our Sovereign, and to all in authority over us. Whatever station we may occupy, and to whatever service we may be called, let us ever be faithful, loyal, and courageous. Give to our commanders, in every enterprise, the counsel and direction of Thy wisdom. And make us, and all our fellow-soldiers, we beseech Thee, ready to follow and willing to obey them, leaving the issues with Thee, the only giver of victory. Above all, teach us to honour Thee our heavenly King, to trust in Thy Son as the Captain of our salvation, and so earnestly to fight under His guidance the fight of faith, that when the toils and strifes of earth are ended, we may receive a crown that fadeth not away.

Extend Thy fatherly protection, O God, to those beloved friends from whom we are far separated. Bless them and keep them, and make Thy face to shine upon them. And grant, if it be consistent with Thy will, that we may yet in peace and safety be restored to them.

And now, O God, we go forward in Thy strength. Be Thou at our right hand, and we shall not fear what men may do to us. Stir up Thy mighty power in our behalf, that success may crown our efforts, and peace be speedily restored.

Graciously hear us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

VII.

TO BE USED IN THE PROSPECT OF A BATTLE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Sovereign Ruler among the nations, who sittest on the throne of the universe judging right, look down in mercy on us, Thine unworthy servants, exposed in our country's cause to the perils of battle. Stir up Thy strength, O Lord, and come and help us. Give to our leaders energy and skill, and to those who are under them loyalty and devotedness. Above all, inspire us with that trust in Thee from which true courage springs, and by which Thy servants of old waxed valiant in fight, and turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

It hath pleased Thee, O Lord, to bless, in times past, the arms of our beloved country, and to lead forth her hosts to victory. Be graciously pleased now also to maintain our cause, not for the increase of our pride and vain-glory, but for the preservation of our just rights, the restoration of an equitable peace, and the glory of Thy holy name.

Merciful Father, who hast given Thine own Son to be the propitiation for our sins, we earnestly beseech Thee, at this solemn hour, to grant us for His sake Thy favour and forgiveness. Justify us freely by Thy grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Sanctify us wholly by Thy Spirit. Comfort

us with a persuasion of Thy love, and cheer us with a lively hope of Thy heavenly kingdom.

To Thy care we commend our relatives and friends, beseeching Thee ever to comfort and protect them. Spare us, O Lord, that we may yet see them in this world. But if Thou shouldst have otherwise determined, may we meet them at last in the presence of Thy glory.

Lord God of Hosts, we go forward in Thy strength. Arise, O Lord, help us, and deliver us, for Thy name's sake. Endue us with all needful courage. Restrain all vindictive passions. Dispose us to be obedient to our commanders, helpful to our comrades, merciful to the fallen foe. Cover our heads in the hour of battle. Sustain our strength; and lead us on to victory.

Hear us, O God, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, to whom, with Thee the Father, and with the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end.—Amen.

VIII.

TO BE USED AFTER A BATTLE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who in Thy merciful providence hast covered our heads in the day of battle, and saved us from the hands of our enemies; we thankfully acknowledge Thy goodness, and earnestly pray that Thy grace may enable us to pay

Thee the unfeigned homage of grateful hearts, and to give up our preserved lives to Thy service. Because Thou hast been our help, therefore in the shadow of Thy wings will we rejoice. Because Thou hast delivered our souls from death, we will walk before Thee in the land of the living.

Continue to us, we beseech Thee, Thy protection, and teach us steadfastly to put our trust in Thee, as our reconciled God and Father in Christ Jesus, so that we may not fear although an host encamp against us. Suffer us not to faint or be discouraged, whatever trials or adversities may befall us; and whatever success may attend our efforts, dispose us to give all the glory to Thee alone. Be pleased to grant us Thy countenance and aid in the farther prosecution of our warfare, and to crown our arms with speedy and decisive victory, that an honourable and lasting peace may be secured.

Father of Mercies, have pity on the wounded. Relieve their sufferings; sustain their strength; render effectual the means used for their recovery; and let Thy chastening, though for the present grievous, yield in them afterwards the peaceable fruits of righteousness.

Comfort, O God, the friends and relatives of the fallen. Provide for their wants, and alleviate their sorrows. Help them to bow in meek submission to Thy will. And in their bereavements draw them more closely unto Thee, who wilt never leave them or forsake them.

Impress us all, we beseech Thee, with a deep conviction, that in the midst of life we are in death, and by Thy grace prepare us for our change. Confirm our faith and hope in the Redeemer, who is able to save unto the uttermost all who come unto Thee through Him. And enable us so steadfastly to cleave to Him, that whether living or dying we may be the Lord's.

Graciously receive the tribute of our praises, and grant a favourable answer to our requests, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Strength and our Redeemer.—Amen.

IX.

THANKSGIVING AFTER A VICTORY.

LORD GOD of Hosts, mighty in battle, we give Thee thanks for the happy victory with which it hath pleased Thee this day to crown our arms; and we pray that we, and all in authority over us, may by Thy grace be enabled to improve it, not only to the honour of our Sovereign and our country, but to Thy glory and the good of all mankind.

Blessed be Thou, O Lord, our strength, who teachest our hands to war and our fingers to fight; our fortress, our deliverer, and our shield, who savest us from the sword, and subduest the people under us. Not unto us, O God, not unto us, but unto Thy name be the glory, for Thy mercy's sake!

We thank Thee that our lives have been preserved, while others have fallen around us on every side; and we beseech Thee deeply to impress us with a sense of Thine unmerited goodness, that our hearts may be filled with gratitude and our lips with praise, and that our whole life may be devoted to Thy service.

We beseech Thee to have compassion on the wounded. Relieve their pains; restore their health; and overrule their bodily affliction to the everlasting welfare of their souls.

We pray for the friends of those who have been slain in battle, that it may please Thee to comfort and support them, shedding Thy love abroad within their hearts, and teaching them to look beyond the perishing enjoyments of earth to the unfading glories and everlasting blessings of heaven.

Keep us all mindful how near we are to death, and help us with earnestness and watchfulness to prepare for it. Let the life we henceforth lead in the body be a life of faith in the Son of God, who loved us and died for us. And let it be our constant endeavour by Thy grace to fight the good fight of faith, until, having conquered the enemies of our souls, we shall at length reign and triumph in Thy kingdom, through Jesus Christ, the Captain of our salvation; in whose name we offer our thanksgivings and prayers, and to whom, with Thee and with the Holy Spirit, we ascribe all honour and glory, for ever and ever.—Amen.

X.

TO BE USED BY THE SICK OR WOUNDED.

FATHER of Mercies and God of all consolation, mercifully look down on us, Thine unworthy servants, who, while engaged in the service of our country, have been smitten with grievous sicknesses or painful wounds. Grant us relief and comfort in our sufferings, and bless the means used for the recovery of our health and strength, that, being yet spared to serve Thee on the earth, we may give up the residue of our lives to Thy glory. But whatever be Thy will, O God, do Thou prepare us for it, and enable us with meekness to submit to it. Work in us unfeigned repentance for all our sins, and steadfast faith in Thy Son Jesus Christ, that being at peace with Thee through Him, we may, whether in life or in death, be upheld with the assurance of Thy favour, supported by the communications of Thy grace, and comforted with the hope of Thy glorious kingdom.

We pray for our friends and relatives at home, that it may please Thee to watch over and protect them. Help them to cast all their cares, for us or for themselves, on Thee, who carest for them. Bestow upon them Thy loving-kindness which is better than life, and keep them by Thy power through faith unto salvation.

To Thy favour we commend our officers and comrades, beseeching Thee to defend them from all perils, and to grant them signal success in all their undertakings; above all to crown them with victory in the fight of faith, that finally through Thy mercy they may obtain eternal life.

We pray for our enemies, that Thou wouldst forgive them, and enable us to forgive them from the heart. Bring, we beseech Thee, this warfare to a speedy conclusion, and hasten the blessed time for which Thou hast taught us to look, when nation shall no longer rise against nation, neither shall they study war any more.

Give ear, O God, to our humble supplications, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour. —Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE USE OF SAILORS AND PERSONS AT SEA.

I.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the sea; under whose protection we are alike secure in every place, and without whose providence we can nowhere be in safety; look down in mercy on us, Thine unworthy servants, who are called to see Thy wonders in the deep, and to perform the duties of our vocation in the great waters. Let Thine everlasting arm be underneath and round about us. Preserve us in all dangers; support us in all trials; conduct us speedily and safely on our voyage, and bring us in peace and comfort to our desired haven.

Be pleased to watch over the members of our families, and all the beloved friends whom we have left behind. Relieve our minds from all anxiety on their account by the blessed persuasion that Thou carest for them. Above all, grant that our souls may be defended from whatsoever evils or perils may encompass them; and that, abiding steadfast in the faith, we may be enabled so to pass through the

waves and storms of this uncertain world, that finally we may come to the land of everlasting rest, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

II.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who rulest over all, and dost according to Thy will in heaven, and in earth, and in the sea, and in all deep places; vouchsafe unto us, who are now traversing the great waters, Thy favourable regard and Thy seasonable protection. Teach us in all our ways to acknowledge Thee; and help us in all difficulties and dangers to trust in Thee. Though deep should call unto deep, and all Thy waves and billows should go over us, yet do Thou command Thy loving-kindness in the daytime, and cause Thy song in the night to be with us, and our prayer unto Thee the God of our life. Be pleased to grant us a safe and prosperous voyage; and bring us in peace and comfort to our destination.

Bless our homes, and take our beloved friends under Thy watchful guardianship and protection. Fulfil, both to us and to them, Thy gracious promise that Thou wilt never leave us nor forsake us; and preserve us from ever leaving or forsaking Thee. Cause us to experience the strong consolation, which Thou givest to those who have fled for refuge to lay hold on the hope set before them in Thy Gospel; and, having this hope as a sure anchor, entering into

that which is within the veil, whither Jesus the Forerunner is for us entered, may we continue steadfast and immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, so as in due time to come to that inheritance which God, who cannot lie, hath promised us in Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever.—Amen.

III.

O LORD our God, who art present everywhere to hear and help us according to our need, dispose us at all times and in all places to trust in Thee. Cause us, even in the solitude of the vast ocean, to feel persuaded that Thou art not far from every one of us. And be graciously pleased to fulfil to us Thy word, that if we take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall Thy hand lead us, and Thy right hand shall hold us.

To Thy fatherly care and guidance we commit ourselves, beseeching Thee to be our refuge and our strength, our very present help in trouble, our hiding-place from the wind and covert from the tempest, so that, whatever dangers may surround us, our hearts and minds may be kept in perfect peace. Send favouring winds to speed us on our course. And grant that, by Thy good hand upon us, we may in due season reach in safety our appointed haven.

Bestow Thy blessing on our relatives and friends

at home. Grant that they may prosper in all things, and be in health; above all, that their souls may prosper. May they and we, however far apart, be all partakers of the like precious faith, and fellow-heirs of the like precious promises.

God of all grace, who hast blessed us hitherto, we humbly beseech Thee to bless us still. Uphold us by Thy power; direct us by Thy wisdom; sanctify us more and more by Thy grace; deliver us from all the snares and temptations to which in our station and calling we are exposed; so that, having ended the voyage of life in peace, we may come at last to that heavenly kingdom which Thou hast prepared for us, through Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom be all honour and glory for ever and ever.—Amen.

IV.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Maker and Preserver, we acknowledge that Thou art good unto all, and that Thy tender mercies are over all Thy works. The earth is full of Thy riches; so is this great and wide sea, wherein are innumerable living creatures, who wait upon Thee, that Thou mayest give them their meat in due season. O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! in wisdom hast Thou made them all.

We thank Thee that we are invited and encouraged to commit all our ways unto Thee, and that Thou hast promised to direct our steps. Wherefore, we

beseech Thee, leave us not to ourselves, exposed as we are to manifold bodily dangers while carrying on our business in the great waters, and not less to evils and perils of a spiritual kind. Go with us continually, as a God of Providence to protect our bodies, and as a God of Grace to watch over and preserve our souls. Suffer no evil to befall us, and no temptation to ensnare or overcome us. Assist us in all the duties of our calling; and guide us in peace and safety to our desired haven.

Bless and defend all our relatives and friends at home. May we and they, though separated in bodily presence, be ever joined together in the unity of faith and love; and at length, when the course of this mortal life is ended, may we meet them and be inseparably united to them, in that land of everlasting blessedness and rest which Thou hast prepared for Thy people, through Jesus Christ; to whom, with Thee and with the Holy Ghost, be all honour and praise for evermore.—Amen.

V.

ALMIGHTY GOD,* who alone commandest the winds and the waves, and they obey Thee; we, Thine unworthy and sinful creatures, separated on the sea from the dwellings of men, would humbly address to Thee our prayers. We worship Thee as the living and true God, who hast made the earth and sea, and all that is therein; and beholding Thy works and Thy wonders in the deep, we magnify and exalt Thy great name, and ascribe unto Thee all dominion, and majesty, and glory, for ever and ever.

We give Thee thanks for all that we have hitherto experienced of Thine upholding goodness and preserving care; and we beseech Thee still to vouchsafe to us, notwithstanding our unworthiness, the continued defence and bounty of Thy providence. Shield us from all dangers, seen and unseen. Speed us on our way, and bring us to our destination. Take all our absent friends under Thy protection, and grant that in due time we may be happily restored to them.

Above all, give unto us, O heavenly Father, the abundant influence of Thy Holy Spirit, to enlighten our minds in the knowledge of Thy truth, to purify our hearts from indwelling sin, and to work in us both to will and to do of Thy good pleasure. Enable

* From *The Book of Prayer*, New York, 1857.

us ever to hold faith and a good conscience, lest by putting them away we make shipwreck of the soul; and, being guided and governed by Thy blessed Spirit, may we finish the voyage of life in safety, and find entrance at last into the haven of eternal rest, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with Thee the Father, and with the Holy Ghost, be glory everlasting.—Amen.

VI.

TO BE USED WHEN THERE ARE EMIGRANTS ON BOARD.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we, Thy dependent creatures, who are now called in Thy providence to leave our native shores, and to pass through the great ocean, desire to commend ourselves to Thy guardianship and protection. We beseech Thee, who stillest the noise of the waves, and holdest the winds in the hollow of Thy hand, to deliver us, and those who sail with us, from all the perils to which we are exposed, and to grant us a swift and prosperous voyage to our desired haven.

Impart to the officers and seamen of this vessel all needful strength and wisdom for their several duties. Deliver them from all evils of body and of soul, and help them to cleave in faith to the Redeemer, from whose love neither the trials of life nor the terrors of death are able to divide them.

We pray for those of us who are emigrating to a

distant country, that it may please Thee, by whom all things are ordered, to provide for us new homes in the land of our adoption; to aid us in all our lawful undertakings; to bless us in our basket and our store; above all, to supply to us and to our families the means of Christian instruction and improvement, that our souls may be nourished and strengthened unto eternal life.

Keep us mindful that, wherever we may go, Thine eye is upon us, and Thy hand upholdeth us. Cause us to hold fast those precious truths of Thy blessed Word in which we have been instructed; and, though far removed from the sanctuaries of our fathers, suffer us not, we beseech Thee, to be moved away from the faith and hope of the Gospel which we have heard.

To Thy fatherly care we consign our dear friends whom we have left behind in the land of our nativity. Encompass them with Thy favour as with a shield. Enrich them with the treasures of Thy grace. Cheer us from time to time with tidings of their welfare. And though we should never again see them in this world, may we meet them at last in the mansions of our Father's house, and there be made perfectly blessed with them in the full enjoying of Thee to all eternity, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.—Amen.

VII.

TO BE USED WHEN THERE ARE EMIGRANTS ON BOARD.

MOST gracious God, whose eye is ever upon us, whether in the crowded haunts of men or on the lonely ocean, teach us to endure as seeing Thee who art invisible, and in all our ways to acknowledge Thee. Vouchsafe to the crew and passengers of this vessel the constant defence and care of Thy providence. Grant unto us fair winds and favourable weather; open for us a safe passage through the deep; and bring us in peace to the haven we are seeking.

We implore Thy blessing on our absent friends and kindred, commending them to Thee and to the Word of Thy grace, which is able to build them up, and to give them an inheritance among them that are sanctified.

We pray that such of us as are emigrating to a distant land may heartily commit ourselves to Thy guidance. If Thy presence go not with us, carry us not up hence. Lead us by a right way to a place of habitation. Provide needful sustenance for us and for our families. Above all, feed our souls with the bread of life.

Give us grace to obey from the heart the form of sound words in which we have been instructed. Enable us to walk by faith, and not by sight. And though

we be mindful of the country from which we have come out, and of the dear friends from whom we have been severed, grant that we may supremely desire a better country, even a heavenly; confessing that we are strangers and pilgrims on the earth, and seeking that land of everlasting rest, where all the faithful in Christ Jesus shall be reunited, and shall dwell for ever in the presence of their Lord.

Grant these requests, O Father, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour. —Amen.

VIII.

ON THE OCCASION OF A STORM OR OTHER DANGER AT SEA.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble, have mercy upon us, and hear our prayer. Out of the depths do we cry unto Thee. Lord, save us, that we perish not. Suffer not the proud waters to go over us. Rebuke the raging winds, and still the roaring waves. Deliver us in this season of our extremity, that we may yet live to serve Thee, and to glorify Thy holy name.

We acknowledge that we have justly provoked Thy judgments. Our iniquities have taken hold upon us, so that we are not able to look up: they are more than the hairs of our heads, therefore our hearts fail

us. Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver us. O Lord, make haste to help us. Enter not into judgment with Thy servants, we beseech Thee; for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. But for the sake of Jesus Christ, who is able to save to the uttermost the chief of sinners, receive us graciously; forgive us freely; restore unto us the joys of Thy salvation, and uphold us with Thy free Spirit.

Help us, O God, to commit ourselves to Thee, as to a faithful Creator and Redeemer, who hast said that Thou wilt never leave us nor forsake us. And if it be Thy will that these waters should overwhelm us, let our souls be safe in Thy hands, and kept by Thy power unto life everlasting. Be merciful to our relatives and friends. Assuage their griefs; relieve their anxieties; supply their wants; forgive their sins. Encompass them with Thy favour as with a shield. And though we may never again see them in this world, may we meet them at last in the glories of Thy heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, O God, in this day of our trouble, and let the name of the God of Jacob defend us. We confess that, in times past, we have often failed to pay to Thee the vows which our lips uttered when Thy chastening hand was laid upon us. But henceforth, by Thy grace, we will no more go back from Thee. O quicken us, and we will call upon Thy name. Turn us again, O Lord God of Hosts. Cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do. Defer

not, for Thine own sake, O our God. For we do not present our supplications before Thee for our own righteousnesses, but for Thy great mercies, and for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and only Saviour.—Amen.

IX.

THANKSGIVING FOR DELIVERANCE FROM A STORM OR OTHER DANGER AT SEA.

BLESS the Lord, O our souls, and all that is within us bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O our souls, and forget not all His benefits; who forgiveth all our iniquities, who healeth all our diseases, who redeemeth our lives from destruction, who crowneth us with loving-kindness and tender mercies. We render thanks and praise to Thee, O God, because Thou hast heard our voice and our supplications; because Thou hast inclined Thine ear unto us, therefore will we call upon Thee as long as we live. If it had not been the Lord who was upon our side, then had the waters overwhelmed us, the streams had gone over our souls. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

O let our mouths be filled with Thy praise, and with Thine honour all the days of our lives. Let us never forget to pay Thee the vows which our lips uttered when we were in trouble; but, as Thou hast delivered our souls from death, may we walk before

Thee in the land of the living, presenting our bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our reasonable service.

Grant us deliverance, not only from Thy temporal judgments, but from that everlasting condemnation which our sins deserve. Justify us freely, by Thy grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Sanctify us wholly by Thy Spirit. Strengthen us with might for the patient endurance of every trial, and for the faithful discharge of every duty. Guide us by Thy counsel while we live, and afterwards receive us into glory, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

X.

ON REACHING THE END OF A VOYAGE.

MOST gracious God, our Father and Preserver, we thank Thee that, by Thy good hand upon us, we have been delivered from the perils of the deep, and brought in safety to our desired haven. Fill our hearts with gratitude and our mouths with praise for all Thy care and kindness; and help us to devote our preserved lives to Thy glory.

[Guide us to our homes; and grant that we may there find our dear friends, from whom we have been so long separated, in health and comfort.*]

* This or the following paragraph to be used, according as the port reached is at home or abroad.

[Prosper the object of our visit to this port. Watch over us during the period of our sojourn. And grant us a safe and speedy departure, that in due season we may return to our homes in peace.]

Deliver us, we beseech Thee, from the manifold temptations to which, on shore, we are peculiarly exposed; from the snares of impurity, intemperance, and ungodliness, and from the corrupting influence of evil companionships and examples. And let our conversation be in all things as it becometh the Gospel of Christ.

[Be gracious to those of us who are emigrating to a foreign land.* Watch over us during the remainder of our journey, and lead us by a right way to our destined habitation. To Thy fatherly care we consign the friends from whom we are severed, beseeching Thee ever to bless and to befriend them. Bestow upon them the bounties of Thy providence, and greatly enrich them with the treasures of Thy grace.]

Holy Father, we look up to Thee for all needful guidance and counsel in our earthly pilgrimage. Go with us wherever we go, and dwell with us wherever we dwell. Let goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our life, and at last may we dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Mercifully hear us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

* This to be used if there are Emigrants on board.

PRAYERS FOR THE USE OF COLONISTS,

AND

OF SOJOURNERS IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

I.

FOR THE USE OF COLONISTS.

ETERNAL and unchangeable Jehovah, who hast been our dwelling-place in all generations, and hast said that Thou wilt never leave us nor forsake us; enable us to put our trust in Thee. Though far from the land in which our fathers worshipped Thee, suffer us not to be forgetful of Thy service; but teach us still to acknowledge Thee in all our ways, honouring Thy name, searching Thy Word, hallowing Thy Sabbaths, and keeping Thy commandments. Help us to lead a life of faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave Himself for us; and whatsoever we do, in word or in deed, dispose us to do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Look down, we pray Thee, with compassion on the spiritual wants of this Colony, and of this neighbourhood, that we may not be scattered abroad as sheep without a shepherd.

Abundantly bless the Church of our fathers, and all the Colonial Churches in connection with her.

May she be greatly honoured to diffuse Thy saving truth, not only within her own boundaries, but in this and in all the other provinces of the British Empire, and even in the remote and dark places of the heathen world.

Be gracious to our absent relatives and friends. Protect them by Thy power, and bless them with Thy favour, and cheer us from time to time with tidings of their welfare.

Grant us those aids of Thy providence and grace which are suited to the wants and trials of our present condition. Strengthen us for our lawful occupations. Preserve us from worldly anxieties and cares. And, amidst all the toils and wanderings of our pilgrimage, dispose us to seek our strength and our rest in Thee, and to comfort ourselves with the prospect of that better land of everlasting peace and joy which is awaiting us.

Graciously hear us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

II.

FOR THE USE OF COLONISTS.

O GOD, Creator and Preserver of mankind, who didst from the first ordain that men should go forth to subdue and replenish the earth, and hast cast our lot far from the home of our fathers; vouch-

safe to us Thy heavenly guidance through all the changing scenes of this life, in which we are ever but sojourners and pilgrims, who have no continued rest or certain habitation. Defend us amidst all dangers; sustain us under all trials. Further our lawful undertakings with Thy help and blessing. Above all, preserve us from the moral and spiritual evils to which we are peculiarly exposed in a strange land. Suffer us not, in labouring for the meat that perisheth, to neglect that meat which endureth unto everlasting life. But grant that, faithfully using such means and privileges as in Thy goodness are afforded us, diligently reading Thy blessed Word, sacredly hallowing Thy holy day, and regularly observing Thy worship in our families, we may be kept sound and steadfast in the faith, preserved from erroneous opinions and sinful practices, enriched with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus, and made meet for entering into that land of rest, where, with the whole Church of the redeemed, we shall dwell in Thy presence and celebrate Thy praise for ever.

We pray for our distant relatives and friends. Encompass them with the shield of Thy protection. Supply all their need according to Thy glorious riches. Grant them in health and prosperity long to live; and finally appoint them a portion in Thy heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, O God, and graciously accept of us, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour. —Amen.

III.

FOR THE USE OF COLONISTS.

O LORD our God, who art present everywhere, the confidence of all the ends of the earth, bestow Thy favourable regard on us, Thine unworthy servants, who are far removed from the courts of Thy house and from the solemn assemblies of Thy people. Let not our souls be cast down within us at the thought of privileges formerly enjoyed, when we went to Thy house with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept Thy holy day. But cause us to feel assured that even in the lonely wilderness Thou art ever at hand to hear us when we call upon Thee, and that whatsoever place may be hallowed by Thy true worship shall prove to us none other than the house of God and the gate of heaven.

We thank Thee that to us, as to Thy people everywhere, Thou hast given Thine own Son as a Saviour and Intercessor, Thy Holy Spirit as a Comforter and Guide, Thy Word of Truth as an Instructor, Thy throne of grace as a never-failing refuge. And we pray that Thou wouldst teach us to improve these great mercies, that we may not be moved away from the hope of the Gospel, and cut off, by our own neglect, from the communion of Thy saints.

Preserve us, O God, from the perils and temptations to which we are peculiarly exposed. Guard us against the seductions of evil example. Save us from worldly anxieties and cares. Teach us to be patient and contented under all trials, sustaining each other by mutual kindness and self-denial, and lightening our common hardships by cheerful confidence and hope in Thee. Bless us in all the works of our hands, and sanctify all the circumstances of our lot to our growth in grace and our preparation for eternity.

We commend to Thy fatherly kindness and protection our beloved friends, from whom we have been severed, and earnestly beseech Thee to remember them with the favour that Thou bearest unto Thy people, and to visit them with Thy salvation.

Graciously hear our humble supplications, and grant an answer of peace, for Christ's sake.—Amen.

IV.

FOR THE USE OF COLONISTS.

O LORD our God, on whom we ever depend, the God of our fathers, and of us their children; we thank Thee for the protection Thou hast hitherto extended towards us, and for the strength Thou hast given us to sustain the anxieties and privations incident to our condition. We humbly beseech Thee to

protect and bless us still. Fit us for every new employment to which we may be called, and for every new trial or hardship that may await us. And cause us to experience the truth of Thy promise, that as our day is so shall our strength be.

Let Thy blessing rest on the inhabitants of this Colony. Bless them in their basket and in their store, and in all their interests, temporal and spiritual.

We pray for our friends from whom we are far separated, that it may please Thee to protect them by Thy providence, and greatly to enrich them with the treasures of Thy grace.

We pray for the whole Church of Christ throughout the world, especially for the Church of our fathers, and for her branches in this and other Colonies; that they may be more and more distinguished by soundness of doctrine, purity of worship, and earnestness of zeal for the diffusion of Thy Gospel. Truly, O Lord, the harvest is plenteous, and the labourers are few. Send forth, we beseech Thee, labourers into Thy harvest. Provide for the spiritual wants of this district, that there may be no famine of hearing the words of the Lord. Meanwhile, may it please Thee to supply our lack of pastoral care and teaching, by stirring us up to serious and earnest concern for the things which belong to our everlasting peace. Suffer us not to be moved away from the faith and hope of the Gospel which we have heard. Help us, not as in the presence of our teachers only, but now much more in their absence, to work out our own salvation

with fear and trembling; for it is Thou, O God, who workest in us both to will and to do of Thy good pleasure. Guide us by Thy counsel while we live, and afterwards receive us into glory, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

V.

FOR THE USE OF COLONISTS WHO HAVE RECENTLY IMMIGRATED.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Father and Preserver, who hast been with us in all the way which we went, and hast brought us in safety through all the perils of our journey; we acknowledge with thankful hearts that hitherto Thou hast helped us, and earnestly implore Thy continued guidance and protection in this strange country to which Thou hast conducted us. Be pleased to grant us suitable occupations and quiet homes in the land of our adoption; and enable us, by an upright and godly life, and by all good fidelity and industry in our several callings, to find favour in the eyes of those among whom we dwell. Strengthen us, we beseech Thee, for the endurance of our appointed labours; provide for our wants; support us in our trials. Above all, teach us to trust in Thee and to do good, that we may dwell in the land and verily be fed; remembering that godliness is profitable unto all things, having

promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

Suffer us not at any time to be forgetful of those saving truths and precepts of Thy Gospel, in which it has been our privilege to be instructed. Building ourselves up on our most holy faith, and praying in the Holy Ghost, may we keep ourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. Help us to maintain Thy worship in our households, and to take Thy Word as a light to guide us in our paths. And let our conversation in all things be as becometh the Gospel of Christ.

We commend to Thee our beloved friends, whom we have left behind in the land of our nativity. Be pleased to extend to them Thy guardian care and saving grace. May we and they be cheered from time to time with tidings of each other's welfare; and at last, when this life of pilgrimage is ended, may we meet them, never more to be separated, in that better country for which we are taught to look.

Graciously hear us, O Father, and accept of us, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

VI.

FOR THE USE OF SOJOURNERS IN INDIA.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, who hast promised to be as a little sanctuary unto Thy people when far off among the heathen, vouchsafe unto us, in this strange land, the continued care of Thy providence, and the seasonable aids and comforts of Thy grace.

Teach us, in whatsoever circumstances we are placed, to endure as seeing Thee who art invisible. Suffer us not to be so engrossed with the occupations and pleasures of this life, as to neglect the work of preparation for eternity. Preserve us from pride, luxury, and self-indulgence, and from all carnal desires that war against the soul. Support us in our seasons of languor and depression. Cheer us in our hours of loneliness and sorrow. Aid us in our times of labour and of trial. Graciously supply our lack of public ordinances by a more abundant outpouring of Thy Holy Spirit. And help us, in the midst of idolatry and superstition, to live by faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave Himself for us, and in all things to adorn the doctrine of our God and Saviour; that the heathen, instead of being tempted to reproach, may be led to esteem and honour and embrace Thy Gospel.

Look in pity on this benighted land. Convert the perishing millions of its inhabitants. And grant that by Thy blessing on the labours of such as preach among them the unsearchable riches of Christ, they may be turned from darkness unto light, and from the power of Satan unto God.

Bestow Thy favour on the Governor-General of India, and on all subordinate Magistrates and Judges; and grant that their influence and authority may be used for the advancement of Thy truth, the honour of our Sovereign, the safety, peace, and welfare of the community.

To Thy fatherly care we commend our beloved friends, beseeching Thee ever to watch over and protect them. Suffer no evil to befall them; but make all things work together for their good. May we be comforted by hearing of their welfare. And grant that we may yet be restored to them in our native land, or, if it be Thy will, in that better country which Thou hast provided for Thy people through Jesus Christ; in whose name we humbly offer our prayers, and to whom, with Thee the Father, and with the Holy Spirit, we ascribe all honour and glory for evermore.—Amen.

VII.

FOR THE USE OF SOJOURNERS IN INDIA.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who in Thy wise counsels hast ordered all the circumstances of our lot, and determined the bounds of our habitation, keep us mindful that Thine eye is ever upon us, and Thine everlasting arm underneath and round about us; and cause us to feel assured that under the shade of Thy protection, the sun shall not smite us by day, nor the moon by night, and that all things, how adverse soever they may appear, shall in Thy providence work together for our good.

Forbid that we should in this benighted land be moved away from the hope of Thy Gospel. But rather, from what we witness on every side of the baneful effects of delusion and superstition, may we more highly value, and more openly profess, and more firmly cleave to the truth as it is in Jesus. Grant that both we and all our fellow-countrymen, more especially those who are invested with authority, may heartily feel and own our obligation to do what we can for the furtherance of Thy cause among those heathen tribes who are here subject to the British sway. And by Thy blessing on the labours of our Missionaries, and on the consistent lives of all who bear the Christian name, let the time soon come

when the inhabitants of India shall be turned from dumb idols to the service of the living God.

Bestow Thy favour on our relatives and friends. However far removed from us in bodily presence, may they ever be joined to us in the unity of faith and love. Restore us, O Lord, if consistent with Thy holy will, to their fellowship in the country of our birth. But if Thou shouldst have otherwise appointed, may we meet them at last in that better country which is the everlasting home of all the faithful.

Grant these requests, O Father, we beseech Thee, and all other things which Thou knowest to be needful, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

VIII.

FOR THE USE OF SOJOURNERS IN INDIA.

MOST gracious God, who art nigh to all that seek Thee, alike in the solemn assemblies of Thy people, and where two or three are met together in Thy name, withhold not from us Thy presence and Thy blessing. Enable us, even in this strange land, to sing with melody in our hearts the songs of Zion, and cause us to see Thy power and Thy glory, so as we have seen Thee in the sanctuary.

Keep us ever mindful, we beseech Thee, of those

precious truths of Thy Word in which from our earliest years we have been instructed. Give us grace that we may steadfastly believe, and boldly profess, and consistently obey the Gospel, counting all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord. And help us, in the midst of a people that sit in darkness, to walk as becometh children of the light.

From all diseases and perils of the body, as well as from all temptations of the soul, to which in our present condition we are exposed, may it please Thee, O God, to defend and deliver us. Endue us with the strength and wisdom that are needful for the faithful performance of the duties to which we are called. And grant that, when the ends of our sojourn here are accomplished, we may be brought again to our native land in peace.

Extend Thy Fatherly protection, we beseech Thee, to those beloved friends from whom we are now separated. Grant them in health and prosperity long to live. Above all, enrich them with spiritual and heavenly blessings.

Bestow Thy favour on the Governor-General of India, and on all subordinate Magistrates and Judges. Enable them to execute the offices intrusted to them so as to encourage the diffusion of Thy Gospel, and to advance the welfare and happiness of the people.

We pray for the heathen by whom we are surrounded, that it may please Thee to enlighten and

convert them. Remove their prejudices, dissipate their strong delusions, and bring them to the faith and obedience of Thy truth.

Graciously hear us, and grant us an answer of peace, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

IX.

FOR THE USE OF SOJOURNERS IN INDIA.

O LORD our God, who art not far from any one of us, and hast taught us to look to Thee as our very present help, bestow upon us, Thine unworthy servants sojourning in a strange land, Thy kindness and protection. Uphold us by Thy power; guide us by Thy counsel; sanctify us more and more by Thy Holy Spirit. Defend us alike from all dangers that may assail the body, and from all temptations that may ensnare and corrupt the soul. Grant us success in our lawful occupations. Help us in all our ways to acknowledge Thee. And be graciously pleased, O God, to remember us with the favour that Thou bearest unto Thy people, and to visit us with Thy salvation; that we may see the good of Thy chosen, that we may rejoice in the gladness of Thy nation, and may glory with Thine inheritance.

We pray for our friends and relatives at home, that it may please Thee to bless and to protect them. Bestow upon them Thy loving-kindness, which is

better than life. And grant, if it be consistent with Thy will, that in Thy good time we may be happily restored to them.

Regard with Thy favour the Governor-General of India, together with all who are invested with lawful authority; and enable them so to execute their offices as to advance Thy glory, the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom, and the welfare of the people over whom Thou hast appointed them.

We intercede for the heathen among whom we dwell. Our heart's desire and prayer is, that they may be saved. Strengthen the hands and encourage the hearts of Thy servants who proclaim to them the words of eternal life; and grant that, by Thy blessing on their labours, the Word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified.

We pray that among our countrymen in this land, there may be an increasing number of those who are not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, and who feel that one great end of their abiding here is to hold forth the Word of life to a people that sit in darkness. Help us, we beseech Thee, and all our fellow-Christians, to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called, and to let our light so shine before men, that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father in heaven.

Graciously hear our humble supplications, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

X.

FOR THE USE OF SOJOURNERS IN INDIA OR IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

O GOD, who art nigh to all in every place that call upon Thee in the name of Thy beloved Son, look in mercy, we beseech Thee, on thy people scattered abroad as sheep without a shepherd; and especially on us, Thine unworthy servants, in this distant land wherein we now dwell.

Though far removed from the church of our fathers, dispose us, even from the ends of the earth, to remember Zion; and vouchsafe Thy blessing on those means of grace, through which, in our weakness and infirmity, we worship Thee. Graciously receive the tribute of our praises; incline Thine ear to the voice of our prayers; and let the precious truths of Thy Word be deeply impressed on our memories and hearts.

O God, who givest power to the faint, and increasest strength to them that have no might, keep us steadfast in the faith of Thy Son Jesus Christ, who loved us and died for us. Endue us with all needful boldness and decision to confess Him in the midst of ungodly and unbelieving men. And enable us, both by influence and by example, to commend His Gospel to those who dwell around us.

Into Thy gracious hands, O God, we commit our-

selves, and all our beloved friends from whom we are now separated; beseeching Thee to extend, both to us and to them, Thy fatherly blessing and protection. Be with us in all the way that we go, and keep us in all places wheresoever we sojourn. Let Thy wisdom guide us, and thy grace uphold us. And when the days of our pilgrimage on earth are ended, grant us an everlasting portion in that better country which Thou hast prepared for them that love Thee, through Jesus Christ; in whose name we present our prayers, and unto whom, with Thee, O Father, and with the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory for evermore.—Amen.

XI.

FOR THE USE OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

HEAVENLY FATHER, who in Thy providence hast cast our lot in a foreign land, grant us, we pray Thee, Thy guardianship and blessing. Suffer no evil to befall us, nor any plague to come nigh our dwelling. Aid us in all our lawful undertakings, and prosper us in the works of our hands. Teach us, as much as lieth in us, to live peaceably with all men, and to do good to them as we have opportunity. And help us, by a quiet, temperate, and holy life, and by all good fidelity and uprightness in our callings, to

find favour in the eyes of the people among whom we dwell.

Forbid that the godly habits of our own country should be laid aside in the land of the stranger. Suffer us not, in compliance with prevailing example, to neglect Thy Word, to profane Thy Sabbath, or to corrupt the simplicity and purity of Thy worship. Give us grace to obey from the heart the form of sound words in which we have been instructed; and help us, by a conversation such as becometh the Gospel, to adorn the doctrine of our God and Saviour in all things.

We pray for the good of the land in which we sojourn. Promote all its interests, civil and religious; and grant that in the peace thereof we may have peace.

We commend to Thine especial protection our beloved friends from whom we are far removed. Bless them, and keep them, and make Thy face to shine upon them. Grant, if in Thy good providence we are permitted to return again to the home of our fathers, that we may there find those friends who shall remain to us prospering in all happiness, and enriched with all heavenly blessings; so that we may spend the residue of our lives with them in the endearing charities of kindred and holy friendship, and exhorting one another to faith and good works, may further each other's progress to that better country, which Thou hast prepared for them that love Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

XII.

FOR THE USE OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

O LORD our God, who art with us everywhere, encompassing our path, and acquainted with all our ways, teach us, in this land of our pilgrimage, to place our trust under the covert of Thy wings. Even from the ends of the earth will we cry unto Thee. What time our heart is overwhelmed, or in perplexity, lead us to the Rock that is higher than we; and give us to experience the truth of Thy promise, that Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee.

Grant us defence and deliverance, we beseech Thee, from all those bodily dangers and diseases to which, in this foreign clime, we are exposed. Abiding under the shadow of the Almighty, may we not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day, nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness, nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

Above all, save us from the corrupting influence of unchristian principles and ungodly examples, that we be not moved away from the hope of the Gospel, or tempted to walk unworthily of our high vocation. Make us thankful for the privileges we enjoy, who though once afar off, aliens from the commonwealth

of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, are now made nigh by the blood of Christ. And being no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, help us to live as a people who are near to Thee, showing forth the praises of our God, who hath called us unto His kingdom and glory.

We implore Thy blessing on our lawful undertakings. Encourage us therein with Thy most gracious favour, and further us with Thy continual help, and grant us such success as Thou knowest to be expedient for us.

We pray for the good of the people among whom we dwell. Bless them with peace, and plenty, and prosperity. Above all, give them the knowledge of Thy truth, and make them wise unto salvation.

Be gracious to our absent relatives and friends. Protect them by Thy power; enrich them with Thy favour; and grant, if it be consistent with Thy will, that in Thy good time we may see their face in peace.

God of our fathers, be our God for evermore. Whom have we in heaven but Thee? and there is none upon earth that we desire besides Thee. Our flesh and our heart faileth; but Thou art the strength of our hearts and our portion for ever. Guide us by Thy counsel while we live, and afterwards receive us into glory, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

XIII.

FOR THE USE OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, we thank Thee for the encouragement Thou hast given us at all times and everywhere to call upon Thy name, and for the assurance that Thou art ready to supply our need, according to Thy riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

To Thy fatherly care we commit ourselves in this foreign land, beseeching Thee to defend us from all evil, to grant us success in our lawful undertakings, and to order all the events of Thy providence for the furtherance of our temporal and spiritual welfare.

Preserve us from all sinful conformity to the sentiments and practices of those among whom we dwell. May we be built up in our most holy faith, and, by a godly life, enabled to walk worthy of it. Whatever others do, let it be our firm purpose, that as for us and our houses, we shall serve the Lord.

Take our absent friends under Thy protection. Bestow upon them Thy loving-kindness, which is better than life, and bless them in Christ Jesus with all spiritual and heavenly blessings. Grant, if it be consistent with Thy Holy will, that in Thy good time we may be restored to their society, and to all the

comforts and privileges of our native land. But teach us, above all, to desire that better country, where all Thy faithful children shall be reunited, and shall dwell for ever in the mansions of their Father's house.

Graciously hear us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

XIV.

FOR THE USE OF TRAVELLERS IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the friend of the stranger, and the sure refuge of all that put their trust in Thee, vouchsafe to us, Thine unworthy children, travelling in a foreign land, Thy favour and protection. Go with us wherever we go; dwell with us wherever we dwell; preserve us from all evils and dangers on our way; and bring us again to our homes and friends in peace.

Prosper us, we beseech Thee, in our journey. Make it subservient to the renewal of our health, the enlargement of our knowledge, the increase of our charity, the strengthening of our confidence and hope in Thee. Suffer not the varied scenes through which we pass, or the manifold objects by which we are attracted, to draw away from Thee our homage and affection; but cause them by Thy grace to bring us the more closely

to Thee, as the source of every rational pleasure and enjoyment, the Giver of every good and perfect gift.

Guard us, O God, against the seductive influence of evil communications and unchristian examples. Forbid that the customs or fashions of a strange country, which are in anywise opposed to Thy Holy Word, should tempt us to unlawful compliances. Hold Thou us up, and we shall be safe. Let Thy testimonies ever be our delight and our counsellors, and Thy statutes our songs in the house of our pilgrimage.

Regard with Thy favour the place in which we sojourn; and bless it with light, and peace, and liberty. Be gracious to the land and the Church of our fathers: for our brethren and companions' sakes, let peace be within them.

Help us, O Lord, to commit to Thee our ways, and grant us Thy guidance and direction in our journeyings. Keep us from all the evil that is in the world, that our soul, and spirit, and body, may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; in whose name we present to Thee our prayers, and unto whom, with Thee, and with the Holy Ghost, be all honour and praise for ever and ever.—Amen.

XV.

FOR THE USE OF TRAVELLERS IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

O GOD, who fillest all things with Thy presence, and art acquainted with all our ways, grant us, wherever we go, Thy countenance and blessing. Journeying in a foreign land, we cast ourselves on Thy care. Hold Thou up our goings in Thy paths, that our footsteps slip not. Shield us from dangers; counsel us in difficulties; deliver us from temptations. Preserve us from all sinful conformity to manners and customs opposed to Thy holy will. Make our way prosperous, and all our affairs successful. And sanctify our experience of Thy goodness to our growth in grace and our everlasting welfare.

Watch over our homes, and in due time restore us to them. But keep us ever mindful, we beseech Thee, that this world is not our rest. Teach us to live above it, and to look beyond it. Acknowledging that all our life is but a pilgrimage, may we have our conversation in heaven, and seek that rest which Thou art there reserving for the faithful.

Graciously hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS

ON

PARTICULAR OCCASIONS.

"In every thing, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God."—PHILIPPIANS, iv. 6.

"Pray without ceasing; in every thing give thanks."—1 THESS. v. 17, 18.

"If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; if my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins, and will heal their land."—2 CHRON. vii. 13, 14.

THESE Occasional Prayers and Thanksgivings may be introduced after the middle Prayer in any of the FORMS OF SOCIAL WORSHIP, or may be substituted for the middle Prayer.

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS

ON

PARTICULAR OCCASIONS.

I.

PRAYER FOR THE FRUITS OF THE EARTH.

O GOD, our Creator and Preserver, who givest food to all flesh, making the grass to grow for cattle, and herbs for the service of man; regard our land, we beseech Thee, with Thy favour, and send such weather as shall be most seasonable [for increasing and ripening]* [for cutting down and gathering in] the precious fruits of the earth, so that in due season we may enjoy them.

Preserve us, in Thy mercy, from those evils which we have justly deserved; from plague and murrain, from blasting and mildew, from flood and tempest, from excessive rain and scorching drought, from

* The latter of the two clauses within brackets to be used in the time of harvest.

ravening beasts and destroying insects. And grant that, by Thy blessing on our labours, [the pastures may be clothed with flocks, the valleys also covered with corn,] * [our garners may be filled with all manner of store,] and the year crowned with Thy goodness.

Help us, O God, to put our trust in Thee, as knowing what things we have need of before we ask them, and able to do for us exceeding abundantly, above all that we ask or think. And teach us to acknowledge Thee as the giver of all our mercies, not with our lips only, but in our lives, by presenting our bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

II.

PRAYER FOR RAIN.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who preservest all Thy creatures and suppliest the wants of every living thing; look, we beseech Thee, on our dry and parched land. Command the clouds, that they rain upon it. Water the ridges thereof, and make them soft with showers, that the springing of the earth may be blessed, and the year crowned with Thy goodness. Above all, grant that Thy Holy Spirit may be shed

* The latter of the two clauses within brackets to be used in the time of harvest.

forth abundantly on us and on all Thy Churches, that Thy heritage may be refreshed, and Thy Word made fruitful, to the glory of Thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

III.

PRAYER FOR FAIR WEATHER.

O GOD, who of old didst set Thy bow in the cloud for a token of Thy covenant with the earth, we humble ourselves before Thee, acknowledging our sins, whereby we have provoked Thine anger, and earnestly beseeching for Christ's sake Thy forgiveness. Spare us, O Lord; withhold Thy chastening hand; stay the excess of rain, and cause Thy sun to shine, that the hope of a plentiful harvest being fulfilled, our barns may be stored with Thy bounty, and our souls have cause to rejoice and be glad in Thee. Above all, grant that the Sun of Righteousness may arise upon us with healing in His wings, and that Thy people, walking in the light of Thy countenance, may in Thy favour be more and more exalted, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

IV.

THANKSGIVING FOR A FAVOURABLE CHANGE OF WEATHER.

WE thank Thee, O God, Giver of all good, that in Thy merciful providence Thou hast withdrawn from us that excessive [rain] [drought] with which we were visited, and by a seasonable change of weather hast revived our hopes of a prosperous and fruitful harvest. Continue to us, we beseech Thee, Thy loving-kindness, that the fruits of the earth may be fully matured and safely gathered. And help us to show our gratitude for Thy mercies by growing in grace, and bringing forth the fruits of righteousness, which are acceptable and well-pleasing in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

V.

PRAYER IN TIME OF DEARTH OR FAMINE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who orderest all things both in heaven and on earth, we acknowledge that by our manifold sins we have justly provoked Thee to take away our staff of bread, and to turn our fruitful land into barrenness. Fill us with godly sorrow, we beseech Thee for having, in time past, ungrate-

fully forgotten and wickedly abused the bounties of Thy providence; and cause us, with truly penitent hearts, to return to Thee, hearing the rod and Him who hath appointed it.

Extend Thy pity in this season of distress to the poor, the helpless, the widow, and the orphan. And grant, in answer to these our unworthy prayers, that Thy just judgments may in mercy be removed, and our land again made to yield an abundant increase.

Remember Thy promise that seed-time and harvest shall not cease while the earth remaineth; and give unto us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

Above all, grant that our souls may no longer be barren or unfruitful in the knowledge of the Lord, but that, enlightened and nourished by Thy grace, we may grow daily in all godliness, and bring forth abundantly the peaceable fruits of righteousness, to the honour of Thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

VI.

THANKSGIVING FOR HARVEST.

FATHER of mercies, from whom cometh down every good and every perfect gift, we thank Thee, that by Thy blessing on the labours of the husbandman, our fields have been made to yield an

abundant harvest. Impress us with a sense of Thine unmerited goodness in crowning the year so liberally with Thy bounty. And enable us to show our gratitude by a sober, faithful, and charitable use of all Thy mercies, to the good of our brethren, and the glory of Thy blessed name.

Keep us ever mindful of our dependence on Thee. Increase our trust in Thy fatherly care. And while Thou feedest our bodies with the meat that perisheth, may it please Thee evermore to give us that living bread, whereby our souls shall be nourished unto eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

VII.

FOR A TIME OF GREAT SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who killest and makest alive, who turnest man to destruction, and sayest, Return, ye children of men; we acknowledge our sins to be the cause of that just chastisement with which in Thy providence Thou hast been pleased to visit us; and most humbly do we beseech Thee, for the Redeemer's sake, to have pity upon us, miserable sinners, and in the midst of deserved wrath to remember mercy. Return, O Lord, how long? and let it repent Thee concerning Thy servants. Deliver us from the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and from the destruction that wasteth at noonday. Say unto the

destroying angel, It is enough, put up thy sword into its sheath.

Above all, grant that Thy judgments may induce us to search and try our ways, and turn unto the Lord; and that, exercising repentance towards Thee, and faith towards Thy beloved Son, we may be delivered from the plagues of our own evil hearts, saved from everlasting death and condemnation, and raised to the hope of immortal life and glory, through Jesus Christ, who died for us and rose again; and to whom, with Thee, and with the Holy Spirit, be all honour and praise for ever and ever.—Amen.

VIII.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE REMOVAL OF PESTILENCE.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we humbly and heartily acknowledge Thy goodness in withdrawing from the midst of us that desolating plague with which for our manifold sins we have been visited. It is of Thy mercies, O Lord, that we are not consumed, and because Thy compassions fail not. Wherefore, we beseech Thee, help us, with grateful hearts and obedient lives, to show forth Thy praise. Suffer us not to be forgetful of the vows which our lips uttered when we were in trouble; but as Thou hast delivered our souls from death, our eyes from

tears, and our feet from falling, dispose us to walk before Thee in the land of the living.

Confirm us, O Lord, that we may ever be immovable in our fidelity to Thee, who hast dealt so mercifully with us. Make us glad according to the days wherein Thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil. Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants, and Thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it.

Graciously receive the tribute of our thanksgivings, and grant a favourable answer to our prayers, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

IX.

PRAYER IN TIME OF WAR.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who rulest in the kingdoms of the earth and governest among the nations, who makest the wrath of man to praise Thee, and restrainest the remainder thereof; grant us deliverance, we beseech Thee, from the evils of war, with which for our manifold transgressions Thou hast afflicted us. Humble us under the chastening of Thy mighty hand. Work in us unfeigned repentance for those sins whereby we have provoked Thy righteous displeasure. And vouchsafe, in answer to our humble

supplications, that all those calamities which now threaten us may be stayed, and that the blessings of peace may be speedily restored to us.

Endue our statesmen and councillors, we beseech Thee, with wisdom to devise, and energy to execute, such measures as are most expedient in the present emergency; and grant that all their proceedings may be overruled for the honour and welfare of our Sovereign and her dominions.

We commend to Thy guardianship our forces by sea and land, beseeching Thee to support them in all hardships, and to give them defence and deliverance in all perils. Let Thy wisdom guide them, and Thy strength uphold them, and Thy grace inspire them with confidence and hope in Thee. Prepare them, O God, for whatever may befall them, that, whether they live or die, they may be Thine. Cover their heads in the day of battle; and crown their arms with signal and decisive success. So shall we, Thy people, ascribe all praise and thanksgiving unto Thee, who art the only giver of victory.

Hear us, O God, from heaven Thy dwelling-place, and grant an answer of peace, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

X.

THANKSGIVING FOR PEACE.

O LORD our God, who stillest alike the noise of the waves and the tumult of the people, who breakest the bow, and cuttest the spear in sunder, and burnest the chariot in the fire, and makest wars to cease unto the ends of the earth; we render praise and thanksgiving unto Thee for having removed that desolating scourge with which, for our sins, we were recently afflicted, and for restoring to us the blessings of peace. Suffer us not to provoke Thee, by our wickedness, to visit us again with the judgments of Thy providence; but teach us to show our gratitude for Thy goodness, by a sincere and constant obedience to Thy holy will; and help us, both as individuals and as a nation, to improve the peace so happily re-established, to the glory of Thy name, the advancement of Thy Gospel, the prosperity of our country, and the good of all mankind.

Hasten, we beseech Thee, that blessed period for which Thou hast encouraged us to hope, when the Prince of Peace shall everywhere take to Himself His great power and reign; and when, under the benign influence of His dominion, nation shall no longer rise up against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Graciously hear the voice of our supplications, and

favourably receive the tribute of our praise, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, to whom, with Thee, O Father, and with the Holy Ghost, be honour and glory, for ever and ever.—Amen.

XI.

PRAYER AT THE BEGINNING OR END OF A YEAR.

ETERNAL and unchangeable Jehovah, with whom there is no beginning of days or end of years, we humble ourselves, as becometh perishing creatures, in the presence of Him who liveth for ever and ever.

What is man, O God, that Thou art mindful of him, or the son of man that Thou visitest him? Behold Thou hast made our days as an handbreadth, and our age is as nothing before Thee. As for man, his days are as grass; as the flower of the field so he flourisheth; for the wind passeth over it and it is gone, and the place thereof shall know it no more. But Thou, the Ancient of Days, art ever the same, and Thy years shall not fail.

Heavenly Father, we look back with gratitude on all the way whereby Thou hast led us, and on all the benefits, temporal and spiritual, which we have continually received at Thy most bountiful hand. From day to day, and from year to year, hast Thou preserved our lives, and supplied our wants, and given us richly all things to enjoy. From manifold evils

and dangers Thou hast delivered us; with countless and unceasing benefits Thou hast crowned us; with multiplied advantages and means of grace, though sadly abused and undervalued, Thou hast favoured us; in the midst of much ingratitude and unfaithfulness, and of numberless sins and provocations, Thou hast spared us; and we are all here alive this day, to acknowledge with thankful hearts, that hitherto Thou hast helped us, and that goodness and mercy have followed us all the days of our lives.

Holy Father, we confess before Thee that we are not worthy of the least of all Thy mercies. In many things have we offended; in all things have we come short of Thy glory. The laws which Thou hast prescribed to us we have broken; the benefits Thou hast conferred on us we have forgotten; the warnings and judgments Thou hast sent to us we have neglected; the time and talents Thou hast allotted to us we have wasted; the privileges and advantages Thou hast given us we have misimproved. It is of Thy mercies, O Lord, that we are not consumed, because Thy compassions fail not.

Lord God, merciful and gracious, who hast given Thine only begotten Son to be the propitiation for our sins, bestow upon us, for His sake, Thy forgiveness, and make the light of Thy countenance to shine upon us. Remember not against us former transgressions; remember Thy tender mercies and loving kindnesses, for they have been ever of old. And according to Thy mercy remember Thou us, for Thy

goodness' sake, O Lord. Give unto us also the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, whereby we may be enabled to bring forth fruits meet for repentance, and by a sober, righteous, and godly life, to glorify Thy blessed name. Renew us in the spirit of our minds; and grant that with godly sorrow for the past, and with earnest purposes of new obedience for the future, we may think upon our ways, and turn our feet unto Thy testimonies, and make haste to keep Thy commandments.

Impress us, O God, with an abiding sense of the shortness and uncertainty of our lives, and so teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Give us grace to redeem the time we have spent in sloth, vanity, and wickedness, by greater earnestness and diligence in the work of preparation for eternity. Grant that, as our days are multiplied, our holy resolutions may be strengthened; and that, as we draw ever nearer to the grave, we may constantly grow in our conformity to Thine image, and in our meetness to inherit Thy heavenly kingdom.

Into Thy hands, O God, we commit ourselves, beseeching Thee, who hast blessed us hitherto, to bless us still. Prosper us in our lawful undertakings. Keep us from all the evil that is in the world. Prepare us for all events that may befall us. Grant that, whether in prosperity or in adversity, in health or in sickness, in life or in death, we may be upheld and comforted with the assurance that all things work together for good to them that love Thee. And make us to be so rooted and grounded in the faith, and so

abundantly fruitful in good works, that in what hour soever our Lord shall come, we may be found of Him in peace, and may receive that crown of righteousness, which is laid up for them that love His appearing.

Graciously hear us, O God, and have mercy on us, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

XII.

PRAYER FOR THE DIFFUSION AND PREVALENCE OF THE GOSPEL.

LORD GOD of Hosts, who hast said that in every place incense shall be offered unto Thy name, and a pure offering, and hast declared that from the rising of the sun even to the going down of the same, Thy name shall be great among the Gentiles; send forth the light of Thy Gospel into all lands, and pour out the grace of Thy Spirit upon all flesh, that Thy righteousness may be openly shown in the sight of the heathen, and that the whole earth may be filled with Thy glory.

Look with compassion on those idolatrous nations, that are sitting in gross darkness and perishing for lack of knowledge; and hasten the time when they shall be turned from vain idols to the worship of Thee, the only true God.

Have mercy on those lands, once highly favoured with the light of Thy glorious Gospel, which are now

enslaved by the delusions of the false prophet; and grant that therein a great and effectual door may soon be opened for the preaching of the Word of life.

Remember, O Lord, Thy mercy and Thy truth towards the house of Israel. Take from their hearts the veil that hinders them from seeing the fulfilment of Thy promises to their fathers. And teach them to acknowledge Thy Son Jesus, whom they have hitherto rejected, to be both Lord and Christ.

Send forth, we beseech Thee, a spirit of enlightenment and reformation among all professed Christians. Deliver them from the bondage of ignorance, the snares of infidelity and ungodliness, and the darkness of antichristian error and superstition. Heal their unhappy divisions and dissensions, so that they may dwell as brethren in unity, and strive together with one mind for the faith of the Gospel. Supply unto them, wherever it is needful, the means of Christian instruction and improvement. And let Thy Word have free course and be glorified among them, by the conversion of sinners, and the building up of saints in holiness and comfort through faith unto salvation.

Gracious God, who hast taught us to seek the advancement and prosperity of Thy kingdom, bestow Thy special favour, we beseech Thee, on all those schemes of benevolence that have been formed by Churches or by Christian societies, for furthering the cause of truth and godliness throughout the world. Give wisdom to the counsels and energy to the efforts

of those to whose superintendence they are intrusted. And dispose the hearts of Thy people everywhere to pray earnestly and to contribute liberally in their behalf.

Truly, O Lord, the harvest is plenteous, and the labourers are few. Send forth, we pray Thee, labourers into Thy harvest. Put it into the hearts of many to devote themselves to the great work of diffusing the knowledge of Thy Gospel. Strengthen the hands and encourage the hearts of such as have already gone forth to preach, whether among Jews or among Gentiles, the unsearchable riches of Christ. Aid them in their labours; counsel them in their difficulties; defend them in their dangers; support them in their trials and discouragements. Make them honoured instruments in Thy hand of turning many from darkness unto light, and from the power of Satan unto God.

Arise, O God, and plead Thine own cause. Remove every hindrance by which it is obstructed. Bring to nought every device by which it is opposed. Overrule all the changes that take place in the kingdoms of the earth for its furtherance and advancement. Take unto Thyself Thy great power and reign. And let Thy glory be everywhere revealed, that all flesh may see it together.

We ask these things for the honour of Thy name, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Saviour; to whom, with Thee, and with the Holy Spirit, be glory and majesty, dominion and blessing, both now and ever.—Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, THE DYING,

AND

THE BEREAVED.

"Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."—PSALM l. 15.

"In the day of my trouble I will call upon Thee: for Thou wilt answer me."—PSALM lxxxvi. 7.

"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray."—JAMES, v. 13.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, THE DYING,

AND

THE BEREAVED.

I.

PRAYER FOR A SICK PERSON.*

FATHER of mercies and God of all comfort, look with compassion on Thine afflicted servant, for whom we humbly offer our prayers.

Teach *him* [or *her*] to acknowledge that all sicknesses and distresses are the consequence and issue of our fallen state. Humble *him* under a sense of *his* unworthiness, and graciously show *him* wherefore Thou contendest with *him*, that, seeing *himself* to be a lost and ruined creature, *he* may wholly trust in Thy sovereign mercy through the merits and mediation of Thy beloved Son. Reveal to *him* Christ as an all-sufficient Saviour; strengthen *his* faith that *he* may firmly lay hold of the hope set before *him* in the

* From the *Directory of the Westminster Assembly.*

Gospel; and grant *him* the forgiveness of *his* sins, through the blood of Jesus, which cleanseth from all sin. Work in *him* also by Thy Holy Spirit, a comfortable persuasion of Thy love. Withdraw *his* thoughts and affections from the world, and teach *him* to set them on the things that are in heaven. Sanctify to *him* Thy fatherly discipline, that, by the sadness of the countenance, *his* heart may be made better. Endue *him* with strength and patience to sustain whatever afflictions it may please Thee to lay upon *him*. And give *him* such steadfast perseverance in the faith, that neither the trials of life nor the terrors of death may separate *him* from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We earnestly beseech Thee, if consistent with Thy holy will, to bless the means employed for *his* recovery, that *his* malady may be arrested, and *his* strength renewed, and *his* days prolonged to serve Thee on the earth. And if it shall please Thee, in Thy great mercy, to restore *his* health, we pray that by Thy grace *he* may be enabled to walk before Thee in the land of the living, and faithfully to perform those promises of holy obedience which, under Thy chastening hand, *he* may have made. But if in Thy wisdom Thou hast otherwise appointed, prepare *him* by faith in Thy promises to depart in peace. Give *him* such evidence of the pardon of *his* sins, of *his* interest in Christ, and of *his* hope of eternal life, as may cause *his* inward man to be renewed amidst the decay and dissolution of *his* earthly tabernacle. And grant that

by Thy grace strengthening and upholding *him, he* may be disposed to meet death without fear, may cast *himself* wholly on the Saviour without doubting, and instead of clinging to the perishable concerns of earth, may desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.

Comfort *his* friends and relatives, we beseech Thee. Teach them to submit with meekness to Thy will, and overrule Thy chastening for their good.

Impress us all with a sense of our mortality, that we may early return and seek to be at peace with Thee. While health and strength are in Thy providence continued to us, may we earnestly prepare for the days of sickness and the hour of death, working the works of Him who hath called us while it is day, because the night cometh when no man can work.

God of all grace, who hast called us unto Thine eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that we have suffered awhile, make us perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle us; that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ; to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever.—Amen.

II.

SHORTER PRAYER FOR THE SICK.

MERCIFUL FATHER, who hast taught us in Thy Holy Word that Thou dost not willingly afflict the children of men, look with compassion, we beseech Thee, on Thy servant who desires to be remembered in our prayers.

Sanctify to *him* Thy fatherly correction, that it may yield in *him* the peaceable fruits of righteousness. Work in *him* true repentance towards Thee, and faith unfeigned towards the Lord Jesus Christ, so that *he* may obtain forgiveness of *his* sins, and an inheritance among them that are sanctified. Teach *him* to submit with meekness to Thy will; comfort *him* with a persuasion of Thy favour; support *him* with the hope of eternal life.

We earnestly pray that, if it seem good to Thee, Thou wouldst bless the means employed for *his* recovery, that *his* sufferings may be relieved, *his* health restored, and *his* days prolonged to serve Thee on the earth. But if Thou hast appointed that this sickness shall be unto death, prepare *him*, O God, to depart in peace, and mercifully receive *him* into those blessed mansions which Thou art reserving in heaven for the faithful.

Grant these requests, O Father, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour. —Amen.

III.

THANKSGIVING FOR RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, we yield Thee hearty thanks in behalf of Thy servant, who desires to make acknowledgment of Thy goodness to *him*, that it hath pleased Thee to grant *him* deliverance from that grievous trouble with which *he* was afflicted.

We bless Thee that though *he* was brought low Thou hast helped *him;* though *he* was sorely chastened and corrected, Thou hast not given *him* over unto death. Blessed be Thou, O God, who hast not turned away *his* prayer, nor Thy mercy from *him.*

Oh! let *his* mouth be filled with Thy praise and with Thine honour as long as *he* lives. Because Thou hast delivered *his* eyes from tears, *his* feet from falling, and *his* soul from death, may *he* walk before Thee in the land of the living, offering unto Thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and calling upon the name of the Lord.

Let not the serious impressions that were made upon *him*, and the holy resolutions which *he* formed, be allowed to pass away with the occasion that produced them. But teach *him* at all times to give earnest heed to the things which belong unto *his* peace. Preserve in *his* mind a constant sense of *his* obligations to love and serve Thee. And give *him*

Thy grace, whereby *he* may be enabled faithfully to pay to Thee that which *he* hath vowed.

Keep us all mindful, we beseech Thee, of the manifold mercies Thou hast graciously conferred upon us, and grant that, remembering how much we owe to Thee, we may present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto Thee, which is our reasonable service.

Graciously hear us, O merciful Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son; to whom, with Thee and the ever-blessed Spirit, be ascribed, as is most due, by us and every creature, all honour, power, praise, and thanksgiving, throughout all ages. —Amen and Amen.

IV.

PRAYER FOR A WOMAN IN TRAVAIL.

O GOD, the help of all that put their trust in Thee, be very merciful to Thine handmaid, for whom in her hour of travail we intercede.

Be not Thou far from her, O Lord, when trouble is nigh. Mitigate her sufferings. Relieve her anxieties. Give her grace to resign herself to Thy disposal, and patiently to submit to Thy most blessed will. Grant her a timely and safe deliverance from her pains and perils. And make her to be the thankful mother of a living infant, so that she may

remember no more her anguish, for joy that a child is born into the world.

Above all, grant that her soul may prosper. Bestow on her for Christ's sake the pardon of all her sins. Enrich her with Thy loving-kindness, which is better than life. Increase her faith in Thy beloved Son, who is able to save unto the uttermost all who come unto Thee through Him. Sanctify her by the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, and make her meet to be a partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light. Cause Thy goodness and mercy to follow her all the days of her life; and receive her at last into those blessed mansions, which Thou hast prepared for them that love Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

V.

THANKSGIVING FOR DELIVERANCE IN TRAVAIL.

FATHER of mercies, we give Thee thanks for Thy great goodness to Thy servant in her time of travail. Blessed be Thy name, that it hath pleased Thee to regard the low estate of Thine handmaid, and to grant her deliverance from the pains and perils of childbirth.

Complete Thy goodness by perfecting her recovery. Speedily restore her to her wonted health and strength. And grant that she may retain upon her

mind a lively and lasting impression of Thy mercies; and that she may faithfully remember and pay to Thee the vows which her soul made when she was in trouble.

We praise Thee, O God, for the life which hath been spared, and also for the life which hath been given; and we pray that both may be precious in Thy sight, sustained by Thy care, and devoted to Thy glory. Preserve the young infant, and train it for Thy service. Cause it to grow in grace as it grows in years. And grant that both parent and child may be so enabled to love, and honour, and serve Thee in this life, that they may finally meet in the enjoyment of everlasting glory and blessedness in the life to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

VI.

FOR A SICK CHILD.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, to whom alone belong the issues of life and death; look down, we beseech Thee, in the greatness of Thy compassion, on that suffering child for whom we intercede. O God, who dost not afflict willingly the children of men, have mercy upon *him*, and stay Thy chastening hand. Command a blessing on the means used for *his* recovery. And, if it please Thee,

alleviate *his* sufferings, remove *his* sickness, and prolong *his* days on earth. Above all, grant that *his* precious and immortal soul may be sanctified by the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, who worketh when, and where, and how He willeth, and saved through the mediation of Thy beloved Son, who hath taught us to bring little children unto Him, and hath graciously assured us, that of such is the kingdom of heaven.

If it be Thy will to spare *him* in the land of the living, grant that *he* may be enabled by Thy grace faithfully to serve Thee in *his* day and generation, presenting himself a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable in Thy sight. But if it seem to Thee good to remove *him* from us, we pray that Thou wouldst receive *him* into those heavenly mansions, in which the spirits of all that sleep in the Lord Jesus enjoy perpetual rest and blessedness.

Comfort the hearts of *his* sorrowing and anxious friends. Enable them to cast their cares on Thee, who carest for them. Teach them to submit with meekness to Thy will. And overrule Thy fatherly discipline for their spiritual good.

Prepare us all, O God, for whatsoever trials or sorrows may await us. And grant that, whether in health or in sickness, in joy or in grief, in life or in death, we may be enabled to glorify Thy name, and may be made meet for inheriting Thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

VII.

PRAYER FOR ONE WHOSE SICKNESS HAS BEEN LONG-CONTINUED.*

O GOD, Creator and Preserver of all things, who of Thy great goodness givest us health of body, to the end that therewith we may glorify and serve Thee, and art pleased also, when Thy chastening is needful, to smite us with divers sicknesses and diseases, whereby we are moved and admonished to return to Thee; look with compassion, we beseech Thee, on Thy servant, whom Thou hast seen meet to visit with prolonged affliction.

Turn Thee unto *him*, O God, and have mercy on *him*, for *he* is desolate and afflicted. Receive *him* into Thy fatherly protection; for *he* hath recourse in *his* adversity to Thee alone. Though *he* be sore troubled, Thou canst send deliverance; though cast down, Thou canst lift *him* up; though weak and trembling, thou canst give *him* strength and courage; though conscious of great and manifold transgressions, Thou canst thoroughly wash *him*, and make *him* clean.

Vouchsafe, O God, to show *him* Thy mercy for the sake of Thy beloved Son, whose sacrifice it hath pleased Thee to accept as a full atonement for the

* Altered from the *Book of Common Order*.

sins of all who trust therein. Graciously acknowledge *him* as one of Thy redeemed people, and visit *him* with Thy salvation. Give *him* Thy grace, that, with a true heart, and with full assurance of faith, *he* may receive, to *his* perfect consolation, the remission of all *his* sins through Jesus Christ. Work in *him* also unfeigned repentance, and enable *him* to put off the old man, which is corrupt, and to put on the new man which, after Thine image, is created in righteousness and true holiness.

We pray, in humble submission to Thy will, that it may please Thee to arrest *his* malady and to restore *his* health. But if it seem to Thee good to protract *his* trials, give *him* Thy grace to support *him* in the endurance of them. Suffer *him* not to faint or to repine, however long Thy chastening hand may lie upon *him*. Teach *him* to regard *his* present distresses as the wise and merciful corrections of *his* Father in heaven, chastening *him* not for Thy pleasure, but for *his* profit. And strengthen *him* with might, according to Thy glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness. Let Thy Holy Spirit settle in *his* heart those precious promises which are made to us in Christ Jesus, so that *he* may remain firm and constant in the faith, whatever trials or adversities may befall *him*, and that he may patiently wait all the days of *his* appointed time, until *his* change come. And when the hour of *his* departure is at hand, support *him* with the hopes and consolations of Thy Gospel,

that, trusting in Thy word, *his* soul may depart in peace.

May it also please Thee, most merciful Father, to strengthen and comfort *his* relatives and friends, and all who minister to *him* in *his* affliction, that they faint not through overmuch labour and anxiety. Help them to cast their burden upon Thee, with the comfortable persuasion that Thou wilt sustain them. And let Thy chastening, though for the present grievous, yield in them afterwards the peaceable fruits of righteousness.

Keep us all mindful, O God, how frail we are; and so teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Confessing ourselves to be strangers on the earth, dispose us to have our conversation in heaven. Guide us by Thy counsel while we live, and afterwards receive us unto glory.

Grant these requests, O Father, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee, and with the Holy Ghost, in the unity of the Godhead, world without end.—Amen.

VIII.

FOR ONE WHO IS INSENSIBLE OR DELIRIOUS.

LORD GOD, merciful and gracious, who knowest our frame and hast compassion on our infirmities, look down in pity, we beseech Thee, on Thy servant, for whom, in *his* present sorely afflicted state of body and of mind, we desire to intercede.

We earnestly pray, O God, that it may please Thee to enlighten *his* darkness [to rouse *him* from *his* stupor] [to check *him* in *his* wanderings], and to restore to *him* the use of all *his* faculties, so that *he* may be able clearly to discern and seriously to consider the things which belong to *his* everlasting peace. Arrest, if it be Thy will, the progress of *his* disease. Bless the means employed for its removal. Work for *him* a great deliverance for Thy mercy's sake; that, being restored to health of body and soundness of mind, *he* may be yet spared to serve Thee in the land of the living.

Above all, we entreat Thee to be merciful to *his* soul. Remember not against *him* former transgressions; remember Thy loving-kindnesses, which have been of old; and for the sake of Thy beloved Son, who bore our sins in His own body on the cross, receive *him* graciously, love *him* freely, and visit *him* with Thy salvation.

Into Thy hands we commit Thine afflicted servant. Bless *him*, and keep *him*, and make Thy face to shine upon *him*. If it seem good to Thee in *his* present state to remove *him* from us, receive *him*, O Lord, into the arms of Thy mercy, and give *him*, for Christ's sake, an entrance into Thy glorious kingdom, where all these dark shadows that now obscure *him* shall be removed, and in Thy light *he* shall see light.

Grant also, O God, that all of us may be so moved by the sad condition of this our afflicted *brother*, as to give earnest heed to the welfare of our souls, while health and reason are mercifully spared to us. May we be taught to give glory to the Lord our God, before He cause darkness, and before our feet stumble upon the dark mountains; lest, while we look for light, He make it gross darkness, and turn it into the shadow of death.

Mercifully hear our humble supplications, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

IX.

FOR A SICK PERSON IN DEEP DEJECTION OF SPIRIT.

FATHER of mercies and God of all comfort, we pray that our sorely troubled and disconsolate *brother*, who seeks to be remembered in our prayers, may be cheered with the light of Thy reconciled

countenance, and blessed with the consolations of Thy grace.

O Lord, rebuke *him* not in Thine anger, neither chasten *him* in Thy hot displeasure. Have mercy on *him*, for *he* is weak; heal *him*, for *he* is sorely vexed. The troubles of *his* heart are enlarged; O bring Thou *him* out of *his* distresses. Look upon *his* affliction and *his* pain, and forgive all *his* sin. Let not the thought of Thy wrath lie hard upon *him*, or the terror of Thy judgments distract or overwhelm *him*. Let *him* not doubt the truth of Thy promises, so graciously made in the name of Thy beloved Son, for the encouragement of every believing and penitent soul. Cause *him* to hear the voice of the Redeemer, inviting weary souls to come to Him for rest, and assuring them that in nowise shall they be cast out. And let Thy Spirit work in *him* a lively faith in the fulness, freeness, and suitableness of the blessed Gospel, so that *he* may be filled with all joy and peace in believing, and may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Merciful Father, who hast comforted us with the assurance that Thou dost not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men, suffer not our sorrowing *brother*, we beseech Thee, to think that Thou hast forgotten to be gracious to *him*, by reason of those trials with which *he* hath been visited. Trusting in Thee as a reconciled God, may *he* be persuaded that in faithfulness Thou art chastening *him*, not for Thy pleasure, but for *his* profit. And having Thy love shed

abroad within *his* heart, may *he* know that all things work together for *his* good, and that *his* present light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for *him* a far more exceeding, even an eternal weight of glory.

Grant, O God, if it be consistent with Thy holy will, that the malady of Thy servant may be removed, and that *he* may be spared to serve Thee on the earth. But if Thou shouldst have otherwise appointed, give *him* Thy grace to uphold *him* in a dying hour; so that when *he* walks through the valley of the shadow of death, *he* may fear no evil, because Thou, O Lord, art with *him*, and Thy rod and staff comfort *him*.

Grant these requests, O Father, in *his* behalf, and all other things which Thou knowest to be expedient for *him*, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

X.

IN CASE OF SUDDEN ILLNESS OR ACCIDENT.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who smitest and healest, who killest and makest alive, while none can stay Thy hand; give ear, we beseech Thee, to our earnest supplications in behalf of that person, now desiring to be remembered by us, whom Thou hast visited with sudden and severe affliction. Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver *him;* O Lord, make haste to help *him*. Quicken *him* for Thy name's sake; and for

Thy righteousness' sake bring *his* soul out of trouble. Oh! spare *him*, that *he* may recover strength before *he* go hence, and be no more.

Above all, grant that this sudden visitation may be overruled for *his* everlasting welfare. May it humble *him* under the mighty hand of God. May it lead *him* to exercise a true repentance towards Thee, and an unfeigned faith towards the Lord Jesus Christ; and by Thy grace to cherish in *his* heart so deep a concern for the welfare of *his* soul, as no temptations shall be able to overcome. May *he* think upon *his* ways, and turn *his* feet unto Thy testimonies, and make haste to keep Thy commandments.

If it be Thy will that, in answer to our prayers, *he* should be yet spared in the land of the living, grant that *he* may henceforth cleave to Thee more firmly, and serve Thee more faithfully, than hitherto *he* has done. But if it seem good to Thee to cut *him* off in the midst of *his* days, enable *him* meekly to bow to Thy holy will, and, with full assurance of faith, to commend to Thee *his* spirit. And grant *him*, through the merits and grace of the Redeemer, a portion in the inheritance of the saints.

We pray that all of us may be seriously impressed by this affecting visitation of Thy providence. May it teach us that there is but a step between us and death, and lead us, by Thy grace, to be ever ready for our Lord's coming, forasmuch as we know not how soon we may be called hence.

Mercifully hear us, and grant an answer of peace, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

XI.

FOR A SICK PERSON WHEN THERE IS LITTLE HOPE OF RECOVERY.

O GOD, in whose hand is the life of all mankind and the breath of every living thing, look with compassion on Thy sorely afflicted servant, for whom we humbly offer our prayers.

We know, O Lord, that nothing is too hard for Thee, and that if Thou wilt, Thou canst even yet raise *him* up, and grant *him* a longer continuance in this world. If it seem good to Thee, let this cup pass from *him*. Nevertheless, enable *him* to say, Not as I will, but as Thou wilt; and graciously prepare *him* for whatever may be awaiting *him*, that whether *he* live or die *he* may be Thine.

Give to Thy servant, we beseech Thee, a truly penitent heart for all the sins *he* hath at any time committed, together with a lively faith in Thy Son Jesus, who is able to save unto the uttermost; so that the transgressions of *his* past life may be blotted out, and the joys and comforts of Thy favour may be restored to *him*.

Let Thy Holy Spirit be shed on *him* abundantly, to strengthen *him* for the endurance of *his* suffer-

ings, to witness with *his* spirit that *he* is a child of God, to purify *him* from all remaining sin, and to make *him* meet for the inheritance of the saints in light.

God of all grace, support *him* in *his* time of trouble, that *his* faith be not shaken, nor *his* hope clouded, nor *his* peace disquieted by the trials that encompass *him.* Into Thy hands may *he* be enabled to commend *his* spirit, knowing whom *he* hath believed, and being persuaded that Thou art able to keep that which is committed to Thee against the great day. And if it be Thy will at this time to remove *him* from us, grant *him* a peaceful departure out of this life, and graciously receive *him* into those heavenly mansions, where the souls of them that sleep in the Lord Jesus enjoy perpetual rest and blessedness in Thy presence.

Comfort *his* anxious relatives and friends. Enable them to cast their cares on Thee. Teach them to submit with meekness to Thy holy will, and give them grace to improve Thy chastening to the everlasting welfare of their souls.

Keep us all mindful, O God, that we are dying creatures, who know not how soon or how suddenly we may be called hence. Dispose us with all earnestness to redeem the time we have hitherto spent in vanity and sin, and to do with all our might whatsoever our hand findeth for the advancement of Thy glory, and the furtherance of our growth in grace; so that, when our course in this life shall be finished,

an entrance may be ministered to us abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of Jesus Christ; in whose name we humbly offer our unworthy prayers, and to whom, with Thee and with the Holy Ghost, be honour and praise for evermore.—Amen.

XII.

ON THE OCCASION OF A DEATH OR BURIAL.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting Jehovah, God of the spirits of all flesh, to whom it hath seemed good, in Thine unsearchable providence, to take from this family an esteemed and beloved member; we bow in meek submission to Thy will, and humbly implore the comforts of Thy grace.

Blessed be Thy name, that, in the midst of all our sorrows, and notwithstanding the multitude of our sins, we can look up to Thee as our reconciled Father, and put our trust in the sympathy of Thy beloved Son, and hope for the joys and glories of a better country, where sin, and sorrow, and death shall be no more.

O God of peace, who hast loved Thy people, and hast given them everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, comfort, we beseech Thee, the hearts of Thy servants, on whom Thou hast so heavily laid Thy chastening hand. Give them to know that in very faithfulness Thou hast afflicted

them. Help them to be resigned to Thy blessed will. Let Thy Holy Spirit, the Comforter, be sent to them, that, under His teaching, they may learn to sorrow, not as men that have no hope, but as those who are established in the faith, and cheered with the precious promises of Thy Gospel. Enable them to profit by Thy chastening. May it show them the vanity of all earthly good; and, weaning their hearts from a perishable world, may it lead them to cleave the more steadfastly unto Thee, and to seek the more earnestly that unfading inheritance, which is the everlasting portion of all the faithful.

O God, who art showing us, by the warnings of Thy providence, no less than by the declarations of Thy Word, that it is appointed unto all men once to die, and that in the midst of life we are in death, make us deeply sensible, we beseech Thee, of the shortness and uncertainty of our time on earth; and give us grace to be watchful and prayerful, having our loins girt and our lights burning, as becometh servants waiting for their Lord, who know not the day nor the hour when He shall come to them. Let Thy Holy Spirit so lead us to walk before Thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives, that, when we have served Thee in our generation, we may depart in peace, and may, through the merits and grace of Thy beloved Son, be received into those blessed mansions of His Father's house, whither He hath gone to prepare a place for all who love Him.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the death of Thy Son, hast destroyed death, and by His resurrection hast assured us that they also who sleep in Him shall rise again; receive our unfeigned thanks, we beseech Thee, for that victory over death and the grave which He hath achieved for us; and grant that we, who are still in the body, may be kept in everlasting fellowship with Him who is the Resurrection and the Life; so that, when our earthly tabernacles are dissolved, our souls may be received into His presence, and our flesh also may rest in hope till this mortal shall put on immortality, and this corruptible be clothed with incorruption.

Now may the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work, to do His will, working in us that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever.—Amen.

XIII.

ON OCCASION OF THE DEATH OR BURIAL OF ONE WHOSE RELATIVES ARE AT A DISTANCE.

O GOD, who by the death of a departed *brother* art calling us to remember that we also must pass away, make us, we beseech Thee, to know our end, and the measure of our days, what it is, that we may feel how frail we are. Cause us with deep humility to acknowledge in all the troubles and sorrows that befall us, and in every instance of mortality that we witness, the consequence and evidence of our fallen state. Above all, dispose us heartily to trust in that inestimable love which Thou hast shown to guilty and perishing sinners in the Gospel. And the more we are taught by the visitations of Thy providence, that all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass, may we be led to cleave the more steadfastly to the promises and hopes of Thy Word, which endureth for ever.

Blessed Lord, who hast not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, be pleased to increase our faith in Him. Enable us ever to look to Him as our only Saviour, that being redeemed with His most precious blood, and sanctified by the grace of His Holy Spirit, we may, in all our trials, be supported by a comfortable persuasion

of Thy favour, and a lively hope of inheriting Thy glorious kingdom.

God of all comfort, extend Thy fatherly pity to the absent relatives of *him* whom Thou hast taken away. Prepare them for the tidings of their bereavement. Help them to say, The will of the Lord be done. And sanctify this afflicting dispensation to their growth in grace, and preparation for eternity.

Teach us all to live as knowing that we must soon die. Let us not be slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises. And seeing that the time is short, may we weep as though we wept not, and rejoice as though we rejoiced not, and buy as though we possessed not, and use this world as not abusing it, because the fashion of this world passeth away.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, and give ear unto our cry; for we are strangers with Thee and sojourners, as all our fathers were. Be ever merciful to us, and bless us, and make Thy face to shine upon us, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

XIV.

ON OCCASION OF THE DEATH OR BURIAL OF AN INFANT.

O GOD, who hast made our days as an handbreadth, so that our age is as nothing before Thee, humble us under a sense of our frailty. Suffer us not to be unaffected by the warnings of Thy Providence and the lessons of Thy Word, respecting the shortness and vanity of human life. Cause us to see in the prevalence of death, even over those who have not themselves sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, an evident proof of our fallen and sinful state. And teach us, as guilty and dying creatures, to seek comfort in the fulness of the blessings of Thy Gospel, wherein Thou hast mercifully provided that, even as sin hath reigned unto death, so grace might reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Father of mercies, who bringest good out of evil, and makest Thy chastening, though for a while grievous, to yield afterwards the peaceable fruits of righteousness, look with compassion on this bereaved family, from whom it hath pleased Thee to take away a beloved child. Help them to submit in silence to Thy will, not opening their mouths, because it is Thou that didst it. And however mysterious Thy

dealings with them may seem to be, yet may they be persuaded in their hearts, that Thy judgments are right, and that in faithfulness Thou hast afflicted them. Let them not sorrow as those that have no hope. May they remember the words of the Lord Jesus to those believing parents who brought to Him their young children, when He graciously declared, that of such is the kingdom of heaven. And may it be their comfort to believe that with Him do live the spirits of His redeemed, at whatsoever stage of their pilgrimage they may be freed from the burden of the flesh; and that as Jesus died and rose again, so, when he comes in the glory of His Father, shall they also who sleep in Jesus be raised with Him.

Gracious God, who chastenest Thy servants, not for Thy pleasure, but for their profit, grant that this bereavement may be sanctified to the increase of their faith, to the weaning of their affections from a vain world, and to their greater meetness for the inheritance of the saints. Thus may they find that it is good for them to be afflicted, and that by the sadness of the countenance their heart is made better.

May all of us be solemnly impressed by this affecting dispensation of Thy Providence. May it powerfully remind us that our life is but a vapour, which appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. May it stir us up by Thy grace so to live, that whensoever it pleaseth Thee, we may be prepared to die.

God of all grace, who hast called us unto Thine eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that we have suffered awhile, make us perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle us; that God in all things may be glorified through Christ Jesus; to whom be praise and dominion, for ever and ever.—Amen.

XV.

ON OCCASION OF THE DEATH OR BURIAL OF A YOUNG PERSON.

FATHER of mercies and God of all consolation, we thank Thee that we are encouraged in times of sorrow to lift up our souls unto Thee. Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life.

Look with compassion, we beseech Thee, on this family, from whom Thou hast taken away one that was dear to them, while yet in the bloom and promise of early youth. Enable them to say, The will of the Lord be done. Cause them to be persuaded in their hearts, that though this dispensation be mysterious, it is sent in love, and fraught with mercy. And let Thy fatherly chastening be sanctified, to the weaning of their affections from a vain world, and to their greater meetness for that better country, where sorrow and disappointment are unknown.

O blessed Saviour, who didst Thyself weep beside

the grave of a beloved friend, fulfil to this bereaved household Thy promise, that Thou wilt not leave them comfortless. Turn not away Thine ear from their cry; hold not Thy peace at their tears. Say with power to them, Let not your hearts be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in Me. Make Thyself known to them as the Resurrection and the Life; and satisfy their souls with the assurance, that whosoever believeth in Thee, though he were dead, yet shall he live for ever.

O God, who, by the early removal of a departed friend, art showing us that in the midst of life we are in death; grant that we may be rightly impressed by this affecting visitation of Thy providence; and that, by Thy grace, it may make us more earnest in redeeming the time and preparing for eternity. Spare us, merciful Father, yet a little while, before we go hence and be no more. O satisfy us early with Thy mercy, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad according to the days wherein Thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish Thou the work of our hands.

Graciously hear us, O God, and have mercy upon us, for the Lord Jesus' sake.—Amen.

XVI.

ON OCCASION OF THE DEATH OR BURIAL OF A FATHER OR MOTHER OF A FAMILY.

O GOD, who art very pitiful and of tender mercy, and who dost not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men; dispose us in every season of distress to look up to Thee as a very present help, and to stay our hearts on the assurance Thou hast given us, that all Thy paths are mercy and truth unto such as keep Thy covenant and Thy testimonies.

To Thy fatherly compassion we commend this sorrowing family, bereft of one who was united to them by the closest ties. Help them to bow in meek submission to Thy will. Confirm their faith in the Saviour, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. And while they look at the things which are not seen, give them to know, that their light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for them a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

O God our Father, who hast loved us, and hast given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace; comfort, we beseech Thee, the heart of the bereaved *husband.* Teach *him* to cast *his* burden upon Thee, in the confident persuasion that Thou wilt sustain *him.* And enable *him* to look

beyond this world of trouble, to that better country, even the heavenly, where all the faithful in Christ Jesus shall be reunited, and shall dwell for ever in the presence of their Lord.

We earnestly pray for the children of this family, from whom it hath seemed to Thee good, in Thine unsearchable providence, to take away an affectionate and beloved parent. Fulfil in their behalf Thy promise, that when their father and their mother forsake them, then the Lord will take them up. Reveal Thyself to them as a reconciled God, who chastenest them, not for Thy pleasure, but for their profit. Like as a father pitieth his children, and even as one whom his mother comforteth, so may it please Thee to pity and to comfort them. Protect them by Thy power, and guide them by Thy counsel. Keep them from all the evil that is in the world, and preserve them unto Thy heavenly kingdom.

Almighty God, who art daily reminding us, by the lessons of Thy Word and the warnings of Thy providence, that here we have no continuing city, dispose us to seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth at Thy right hand. Withdraw our affections from a world which we must soon leave, and in which there is nothing permanent or satisfying. Enable us to pass the time of our sojourning in Thy fear, and to lay up in store a good foundation for eternity; that so an entrance may be ministered to us abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; in whose name we humbly

offer our prayers; and to whom, with Thee and with the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory for evermore.—Amen.

XVII.

PRAYER TO BE USED BY THE BEREAVED.

O LORD, whom have we in heaven but Thee? and there is none upon earth that we desire besides Thee. Our heart and our flesh faileth, but Thou art the strength of our heart, and our portion for ever.

Under the shadow of Thy judgments we come to Thee, seeking Thy grace to support us in our time of trial. O God, who art able to supply every loss, to heal every wound, and to dry up every tear, grant that as our sorrows have abounded, our consolations may much more abound. May we be still and know that thou art God, acknowledging Thy right to do with us as Thou willest, and confiding in the wisdom and goodness of Thy dispensations. Reveal Thyself to us, even when Thou smitest us, as a reconciled God and Father in Christ Jesus, who chastenest us, not for thy pleasure, but for our profit, and makest all things work together for our good. Cause us to trust in the sympathy of Thy beloved Son, who is ever touched with a feeling of our infirmities; and to rejoice in Him as the Captain of our salvation, who hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, and

overcome the sharpness of death, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Give to us Thy Holy Spirit as our Comforter, to stablish our hearts in the faith of Thy promises, and to strengthen us with might, according to Thy glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness. And enable us to look beyond this vale of tears to that land of everlasting blessedness and rest, where those Christian friends, whom death has for a while severed, shall be for ever united in the presence of their Lord.

We pray that this chastening, though for the present grievous, may in due time yield in us the peaceable fruits of righteousness. May it show us the vanity of all earthly good, and the need we have of a better and more enduring substance. May it lead us to seek a closer union with Thee, from whose love nothing in life or in death can ever divide us. May it teach us to reflect more seriously than we have ever done, on the short and uncertain duration of our pilgrimage, and with greater earnestness and diligence than hitherto to lay up in store a good foundation for eternity.

O that we all were wise, that we understood this, that we would consider our latter end. Keep us ever mindful that this world is not our rest. Teach us, as strangers and pilgrims on the earth, to desire a better country, that is, a heavenly, and to pass the time of our sojourning in Thy fear, so that, when it shall be Thy will to call us hence, we may have a peaceful

departure out of this life, in favour with Thee, and in perfect charity with all mankind, and may be received into that heavenly kingdom, which Thou hast prepared for them that love Thee, through Jesus Christ, in whose name we present our supplications, and unto whom, with Thee, and with the Holy Ghost, be honour and glory for evermore.—Amen.

TABLE

OF

PORTIONS OF HOLY SCRIPTURE.

It is recommended in the *Directory* that all the Canonical Books be read over in order, and that usually where the Reading ends on one Lord's day it should begin the next. Should a selection of passages be desired, however, the following Table may be useful.

MORNING SERVICE.

Sundays.		First Portion.	Second Portion.
Jan.	1 — 7.	Gen. i.	John i. 1-18.
...	8 — 14.	... ii.	Luke i. 26-56.
...	15 — 21.	... iii.	Matt. i.
...	22 — 28.	... vi.	Luke ii. 1-20.
...	29 Feb. 4.	... vii.	Matt. ii.
Feb.	5 — 11.	... viii.	John i. 19-51.
...	12 — 18.	... ix. 1-19.	Matt. iv.
...	19 — 25.	... xii.	John iii. 1-21.
...	26 Mar. 3.	... xxii.	John iv. 1-26.
Mar.	4 — 10.	... xxviii.	Luke iv. 16-37.
...	11 — 17.	... xxxvii.	Luke v. 1-26.
...	18 — 24.	... xlii.	John v. 19-47.
...	25 — 31.	... xliii.	Matt. xii. 1-21.
Apr.	1 — 7.	... xliv.	Matt. v.
...	8 — 14.	... xlvi. 1-7, 28-34; and xlvii. 1-12.	Matt. vi. 1-18.
...	15 — 21.	... xlviii.	Matt. vi. 19-34.
...	22 — 28.	... xlix.	Matt. vii.
...	29 May 5.	Exod. ii.	Matt. xi.
May	6 — 12.	... iii.	Matt. xii. 1-21.
...	13 — 19.	... v.	Matt. xiii. 1-30.
...	20 — 26.	... xii. 1-36.	Matt. xiii. 31-58.
...	27 June 2.	... xiv.	Matt. ix. 18-38.
June	3 — 9.	... xv.	Matt. x. 1-20.
...	10 — 16.	... xvi. 1-19.	Matt. xiv. 14-36.
...	17 — 23.	... xx. 1-23.	John vi. 35-59.
...	24 — 30.	Deut. i. 19-46.	Matt. xvi.
July	1 — 7.	... iv.	Matt. xvii. 1-21.
...	8 — 14.	... ix.	Matt. xviii. 1-20.

Sundays.	First Portion.	Second Portion.
July 15 —— 21.	Deut. xviii.	Luke x. 1-24.
... 22 —— 28.	... xxxiii.	John vii. 14-31.
... 29 Aug. 4.	Josh. iii.	John vii. 32-52.
Aug. 5 —— 11.	... vii.	Luke x. 25-42.
... 12 —— 18.	... xxiv. 1-25.	Luke xi. 1-13.
... 19 —— 25.	Judg. ii.	Luke xii. 1-21.
... 26 Sept. 1.	Ruth i.	Luke xii. 22-48.
Sept. 2 —— 8.	1 Sam. iii.	John ix. 1-25.
... 9 —— 15.	... xii.	John x. 1-18.
... 16 —— 22.	... xv. 1-23.	John xi. 19-46.
... 23 —— 29.	... xvi. 1-13.	John xii.
... 30 Oct. 6.	2 Sam. vii.	John xiii.
Oct. 7 —— 13.	... xii. 1-23.	John xiv.
... 14 —— 20.	1 Kgs. iii. 1-15.	John xv.
... 21 —— 27.	... vi. 11-38.	John xvi.
... 28 Nov. 3.	... ix. 1-14.	John xvii.
Nov. 4 —— 10.	... xvii.	John xviii. 1-27.
... 11 —— 17.	... xviii. 17-46.	Luke xxiii. 1-25.
... 18 —— 24.	... xix.	Luke xxiii. 26-49.
... 25 Dec. 1.	2 Kgs. ii.	John xix. 25-42.
Dec. 2 —— 8.	... v. 1-19.	John xx. 1-18.
... 9 —— 15.	2 Ch. xxxvi. 1-21.	Luke xxiv. 13-35.
... 16 —— 22.	Neh. viii.	John xx. 19-31.
... 23 —— 29.	Job i.	John xxi.
... 30 —— 31.	... xiii.	Acts i. 1-14.

EVENING SERVICE.

Sundays.	First Portion.	Second Portion.
Jan. 1 —— 7.	Isa. i. 1-20.	Acts ii. 1-21.
... 8 —— 14.	... ii.	Acts ii. 22-47.
... 15 —— 21.	... v. 1-17.	Acts vi.
... 22 —— 28.	... vi.	Acts ix. 1-22.
... 29 Feb. 4.	... vii. 10-25.	Acts xi. 1-18.
Feb. 5 —— 11.	... ix.	Acts xvi. 14-40.
... 12 —— 18.	... xi.	Acts xxvi.
... 19 —— 25.	... xxv.	Rom. i. 1-25.
... 26 Mar. 3.	... xxvi.	Rom. iv.
Mar. 4 —— 10.	... xxxv.	Rom. v.
... 11 —— 17.	... xxxviii.	Rom. vi.
... 18 —— 24.	... xl.	Rom. vii.
... 25 —— 31.	... xli.	Rom. viii.
Apr. 1 —— 7.	... xlii.	Rom. xii.
... 8 —— 14.	... xliii.	Rom. xv. 1-13.
... 15 —— 21.	... xliv.	1 Cor. i. 1-25.
... 22 —— 28.	... xlv.	1 Cor. ii.
... 29 May 5.	... xlviii.	1 Cor. iii.
May 6 —— 12.	... xlix.	1 Cor. xii.
... 13 —— 19.	... li.	1 Cor. xiii.
... 20 —— 26.	... lii.	1 Cor. xiv. 1-20.
... 27 June 2.	... liii.	1 Cor. xv. 1-20.

Sundays.		First Portion.		Second Portion.	
June 3 — 9.	Isa.	liv.	1 Cor.	xv. 21-58.
... 10 — 16.	...	lv.	2 Cor.	iv.
... 17 — 23.	...	lviii.	2 Cor.	v.
... 24 — 30.	...	lix.	2 Cor.	vi.
July 1 — 7.	...	lx.	Gal.	iii.
... 8 — 14.	...	lxi.	Eph.	i.
... 15 — 21.	...	lxii.	Eph.	ii.
... 22 — 28.	...	lxiii.	Eph.	iii.
... 29 Aug. 4.	...	lxiv.	Eph.	iv.
Aug. 5 — 11.	...	lxv.	Eph.	v.
... 12 — 18.	Jer.	xiv. 7-22.	Phil.	ii. 1-18.
... 19 — 25.	...	xvii. 5-27.	Col.	iii.
... 26 Sept. 1.	...	xxxi. 1-20.	1 Thes.	v.
Sept. 2 — 8.	...	xxxiii. 1-16.	2 Thes.	ii.
... 9 — 15.	Lam.	iii. 22-59.	Heb.	i.
... 16 — 22.	Ezek.	i.	Heb.	ii.
... 23 — 29.	...	x.	Heb.	iii.
... 30 Oct. 6.	...	xxxiii. 1-30.	Heb.	iv.
Oct. 7 — 13.	...	xxxiv. 11-31.	Heb.	x.
... 14 — 20.	...	xxxvii. 1-14.	Heb.	xi.
... 21 — 27.	...	xliii. 1-12.	Heb.	xii.
... 28 Nov. 3.	...	xlvii. 1-12.	James	ii.
Nov. 4 — 10.	Dan.	iii.	1 Peter	ii.
... 11 — 17.	...	vi.	1 John	v.
... 18 — 24.	...	ix.	Rev.	i.
... 25 Dec. 1.	Amos	v. 1-15.	Rev.	iii.
Dec. 2 — 8.	Mic.	iv.	Rev.	v.
... 9 — 15.	...	vi.	Rev.	xix.
... 16 — 22.	Hab.	iii.	Rev.	xx.
... 23 — 29.	Zech.	xiii.	Rev.	xxi.
... 30 — 31.	Mal.	iii	Rev.	xxii.

DISCOURSES OF OUR LORD.

1. Matthew v., vi., vii.
2. ... x.
3. ... xiii.
4. ... xviii.
5. ... xxiii.
6. ... xxv.
7. Luke xii.
8. Luke xiv., xv., xvi.
9. ... xviii.
10. John iii.
11. ... iv.
12. ... vi.
13. ... x.
14. ... xiv., xv., xvi.

TABLE OF PSALMS.

I.—PRAYERS.

1. For pardon of sin—6, 25, 32, 38, 51, 130, 143.
2. When deprived of public ordinances—42, 43, 63, 84.
3. Under great dejection, but not without some consolation—13, 22, 69, 77, 88, 143.
4. For Divine aid in consideration of the righteousness of our cause—7, 17, 26, 35.
5. Expressing trust in God under afflictions—3, 16, 27, 31, 54, 56, 57, 61, 62, 71, 86, 131.
6. In affliction—44, 60, 74, 79, 80, 83, 89, 94, 102, 123, 137.
7. In great trouble—4, 5, 11, 28, 41, 55, 59, 64, 70, 109, 120, 141, 142, 143.
8. Intercessions—20, 67, 122, 132, 144.

II.—THANKSGIVINGS.

1. For mercies to particular persons—9, 18, 21, 30, 34, 40, 75, 103, 108, 116, 118, 138, 144.
2. For mercies to the Church in general—46, 48, 65, 66, 68, 76, 81, 85, 98, 105, 124, 126, 129, 135, 136, 149.

III.—ADORATION AND PRAISE.

1. Of God's goodness, mercy, and care of His people—23, 34, 36, 91, 100, 103, 107, 117, 121, 145, 146.
2. Of God's power, majesty, and glory—8, 19, 24, 29, 33, 47, 50, 65, 66, 76, 77, 93, 95, 96, 97, 99, 104, 111, 113, 114, 115, 134, 139, 147, 148, 150.

IV.—INSTRUCTIVE PSALMS.

The different character, the happiness and misery, of good and bad men—1, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 24, 25, 32, 34, 36, 37, 49, 50, 52, 53, 58, 73, 75, 84, 91, 92, 94, 112, 119, 121, 125, 127, 128, 133.

V.—PROPHETICAL PSALMS.

2, 16, 22, 40, 45, 68, 72, 87, 110, 118.

VI.—HISTORICAL PSALMS.

78, 105, 106.

PASSAGES FOR SAILORS AND PERSONS AT SEA.

Psalms xlvi., civ., cvii.; Matt. xiv.; Acts xxvii.

PASSAGES FOR SOLDIERS.

Psalms xx., xxvii., lxvi., xci., cxxiv., cxliv.; Ephes. vi.; 1 Thes. v.
2 Tim. iv.

PASSAGES FOR COLONISTS.

Psalms xxiii., xlii., lxxxiv.; Heb. xi.; 1 Peter i.

PASSAGES FOR THE SICK AND AFFLICTED.

Psalms vi., xxxiv., xxxvii., xxxviii., lxxi., lxxvii., lxxxvi., cii., cxliii.
Isaiah, chapters xxxviii., xl., liii., lxi.
John, chapters xi., xiv., xv., xvi., xvii.
Romans vii.
1 Corinthians xv.
2 Corinthians iv., v.
1 Peter i.

ON OCCASION OF A DEATH OR BURIAL.

Job xiv.
Psalms xxxix., xc.
1 Corinthians xv. 20-58.
1 Thessalonians iv. 13-18.

APPENDIX.

I.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AIDS TO DEVOTION, given in to the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the CHURCH of SCOTLAND on the 29th of May 1858, with the Deliverance of the General Assembly thereupon.

YOUR Committee think it right to preface their Report by a brief reference to the circumstances which led to their appointment.

In 1849 the following Overture was laid before the General Assembly :—

"Whereas, from the great extent of many parishes in the Highlands and Islands, the inhabitants of such districts in those parishes as are far removed from the Parish Churches thereunto respectively belonging (often cut off from them by dangerous friths or arms of the sea, not to be passed except in favourable states of the weather, and, during the winter season in particular, nearly wholly impassable), are thus at times, for several months together, precluded from taking part in the services of the Sanctuary; the dispersed state of the population at the same time rendering inapplicable for remedying the evil the erection of Chapels of Ease, even if the expense of erecting and supplying such Chapels could be provided for: And whereas, further, the evil now adverted to presses yet more heavily on the scattered Presbyterian population in our numerous and extensive Colonies, who adhere to the doctrines and forms of worship of the Church of Scotland—a population which, in the vast pastoral settlements of Australia alone, promises in the course of a few generations to amount to many millions: And whereas, in fine, it is an evil which is unspeakably prejudicial also to the thousands and tens of thousands of our expatriated

countrymen resident in India, who, except in very rare instances, are cut off from all connection with the Church of their baptism and early religious training, not to the serious damage of their own Christian profession only, but to the manifest hindrance likewise of the spread of the Gospel among the heathen: It is humbly overtured to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland now met, that they will be pleased to take the premises into their most anxious consideration, and cause to be selected, and to be published under the sanction of the Church, along with the *Confession of Faith* and *Larger and Shorter Catechism*, on the basis supplied by the *Directory for Public Worship*, and conformably to the practice in use in the times of the Reformation, a Directory or Collection of Aids to Devotion, adapted to the services of the Sabbath, with references to appropriate portions of Scripture and Psalms, to be used in conjunction with the same, whereby, in the absence of any duly authorised provision for the preaching of the Word, the Presbyterian families of a destitute neighbourhood may be enabled to join together, in conformity with the usages of the Scotch Church, in the solemn and elevating exercises of prayer and praise, and the reading of the Holy Scriptures; or that the General Assembly will apply such other remedy to the serious evil now brought under their notice, as they in their wisdom shall see to be meet; it being always understood that no innovation whatever is contemplated by this Overture where the services of the Sanctuary are conducted by a Minister or Licentiate of the Church.

(Signed) JAMES ROBERTSON.
ALEX. HILL.
WILLIAM BLACK.
JOHN PAUL.
CHARLES GIBBON.
THOMAS CLARK.
W. R. PIRIE.
JAMES BRYCE.
THOS. J. CRAWFORD.
WILLIAM JOHNSTON.
JAMES HOPE.
JOHN TAWSE.
ANDREW BELL.
THOS. HILL.
AND. ALEXANDER.
R. BREMNER.
J. O. MACK.
ARCH. SWINTON.
GEO. BUIST.
JOHN LEE.
JOHN HUNTER.
GEORGE GRAY.
JOHN GRAHAM.
WILLIAM MENZIES
ALEX. LOWE.
M. BOWIE.
DAVID BELL.
JAMES JOHNSTONE.
JAMES MACFARLANE.
JOHN RAMSAY.
ROBT. SCOTT MONCRIEFF.
ALEX. PRINGLE.
WM. SMITH.
W. A. CAMPBELL.
J. H. MAXWELL.
T. T. JACKSON.
WM. MENZIES.
M. RHIND.
GEORGE DUNBAR."

The General Assembly approved of this Overture, and appointed the Committee on Aids to Devotion, with the view of carrying it into effect.

In 1855 a Memorial was presented to the General Assembly by the Ministers and Missionaries of the Church of Scotland in the East Indies, referring with satisfaction to the appointment of the Committee on "Aids to Devotion;" setting forth the great extent to which the influence of the Church of Scotland is weakened in India and other distant lands, and her members are induced to attach themselves to another communion, owing to the want of any authorised Forms, by the help of which Presbyterian laymen "scattered abroad" might be enabled, in the absence of a minister, to conduct social worship after the manner of their fathers; and earnestly urging the prosecution, without delay, of the important work intrusted to the Committee.

In the same year an Overture was transmitted from the Presbytery of Edinburgh, representing the urgent necessity of providing Aids to Social Worship for Presbyterian Soldiers and Sailors, as well as for Colonists destitute of a settled pastor. And in the following year, 1856, an Overture to the like effect was transmitted from the Synod of Aberdeen. These Overtures, as also the Memorial from India, were referred to the Committee, with instructions to give heed to the representations contained in them.

From the above statement of the circumstances which led to their appointment, and of the Overtures and applications from time to time referred to them, it is sufficiently clear that the object of your Committee is, not to introduce any innovation into the ordinary worship of the Church when conducted by a Minister or Licentiate, but simply to facilitate the exercise of social worship by soldiers, sailors, sojourners in India, or in other colonies of Great Britain, or in foreign countries, when the services of a Minister or Licentiate cannot be obtained.

The necessity, for this purpose, of some such provision as your Committee have been instructed to supply, is very strongly stated in the Memorial of the Ministers and Missionaries in India, already referred to. "Your Memorialists," they say, "have reason to believe, from their own observation and experience, that one of the main causes by

which the influence of the Church of Scotland is weakened and diminished in India and other foreign countries, is the want of any authorised Form of Social Worship. By far the greater proportion of Scotsmen resident in India are scattered more or less over the vast regions of the interior, far removed from the Presidencies, in which the only Presbyterian Ministers are to be found, and not unfrequently equally remote from all Christian ordinances whatever. In these circumstances, and destitute of any proper substitute for that service of the Sanctuary to which they have been accustomed, the result, sooner or later, is, that while some unhappily become indifferent to religious observances of any kind, others, obliged by necessity to have recourse to the Services or Forms provided by other communions, become, in course of time, attached to and identified with them, and are at last finally and irrecoverably estranged from the Church of their fathers. In this respect, it cannot be denied that the Church of Scotland stands at a disadvantage in the position which in foreign countries she occupies; and that it is very much in the non-existence of such an ecclesiastical provision for her children as that now alluded to—in the want of some such means of retaining, in the absence of her pastors, a tangible hold over the feelings and affections of her people in their acts and habits of religious observance, that we are to find the chief cause of that serious loss and estrangement of her members (many of them in high and influential stations), which so sadly weakens her position in India, and ultimately her influence and usefulness at home."

The above statements by our Ministers and Missionaries in India, regarding the necessities of Presbyterians in that country, are to the fullest extent applicable to the case of our scattered members in Australia, and the various provinces of British America, as well as on the continent of Europe, and in other foreign parts. There are thousands of Scotsmen resident in these distant regions, who, owing to the want of any aids supplied by their own Church for the observance of social worship in the absence of a Minister, are driven to have recourse to the Forms provided by other Churches, or, as too frequently happens, to neglect the duty altogether, and who, in either case, become, in course of time, irrecoverably alienated from our communion. And it

is the decided and unvarying testimony of parties possessing the fullest means of information on the subject, that there is no other cause that tends to so great an extent to withdraw from all connection with the Church of Scotland our countrymen who are temporarily or permanently resident in distant lands, as the want of some such devotional provision as that which your Committee has been appointed to supply.

The same remarks apply to the case of our Scottish *sailors*, whether of the Royal Navy or of the Merchant Service, and also to that of *Scottish emigrants and other voyagers*, who have hitherto been left without any aids to the exercise of social worship after the manner of their National Church.

Nor are these remarks less applicable to the case of *Scottish officers and soldiers* in the army and militia, who are frequently stationed in places where they have no access to the services of a Presbyterian Chaplain, or of any resident Presbyterian Minister. And many strong representations have from time to time been made to members of your Committee, by parties deeply interested in the welfare of our soldiers and sailors, setting forth the great and urgent necessity of providing suitable Forms of Social Worship for their use.

These considerations are quite sufficient to justify the course adopted by the General Assembly of 1849, and persevered in by the *eight* following General Assemblies, who have reappointed the Committee from year to year, with earnest injunctions to fulfil the task assigned to them. For, highly as we prize the privilege of free or extemporaneous prayer possessed by our Ministers,—with all its precious flexibility, and power of adaptation to ever-varying circumstances,—and earnestly as we should deprecate any proposal to restrict them in the exercise of this privilege, our eyes cannot possibly be shut to the palpable fact that there are many numerous and important classes of our fellow-countrymen to whom, either temporarily or permanently, the services of our Ministers cannot be made available, and for whose wants, in reference to the observances of social worship, the Church of their early training lies under an indispensable obligation to provide.

Such being the nature, and such the importance of the work intrusted to them, your Committee have addressed themselves with all earnestness to the performance of it, and

would now humbly submit to this Venerable House the result of their labours, in the Forms of Worship accompanying the present Report.

These Forms consist of *five* Morning and *five* Evening Services, together with a variety of *Special Prayers*, to be introduced in the course of the Services, when used by Soldiers, Sailors, Colonists, Sojourners in India and in Foreign Countries, as also a considerable number of *Occasional Prayers* adapted to particular circumstances and exigencies.

In compiling these Forms, your Committee have, as far as possible, availed themselves of the devotional writings of Calvin and other Presbyterian Reformers, of the prayers contained in the *Book of Common Order*, Knox's *Treatise on Fasting*, and the *Order of Public Repentance*, and of the methods of prayer in our *Directory for Public Worship.** *Four* of the Morning and *four* of the Evening Services, besides several of the Occasional Prayers, have been almost entirely taken from these venerable sources, your Committee being persuaded that prayers thence derived were more likely than any others to commend themselves to the favourable regard of all Scottish Presbyterians.

In regard to the method or arrangement of the Services, it seems to have been contemplated in the Overture of 1849, that that of the *Directory* should be adopted—a method which differs in some respects from what is now in general use throughout Scotland. An instruction, however, was given to the Committee by last General Assembly, "to adhere as closely as possible to the method and order of worship at present observed in our Churches, *or* to make only such deviations from it as may serve to bring the *Aids to Devotion* into closer agreement with the recommendations of the *Directory*."

Your Committee, in endeavouring to carry out this instruction, have thought it more advisable, upon the whole, *to adopt the order or method of worship now in use*, with no further change, by way of conforming to the *Directory*, than the use of *three* prayers of moderate length in each of the services, instead of *two*, and the recommendation to read the Scriptures to a greater extent than is now for the most part done in our congregations.

* See Appendix, II.

The main object for which these *Aids to Devotion* are required, is to enable Presbyterians "scattered abroad," and destitute of a fixed Pastor, to conduct social worship after the manner of their fathers. And keeping this object in view, it seems proper and desirable, that in any forms of worship that may be prepared for their use, there should be no unnecessary deviation from those observances to which they have been accustomed in their native land.

It is now for the General Assembly to determine what course it may deem most advisable to adopt, in regard to those Forms of Worship which the Committee, as ordered by former Assemblies, have endeavoured to prepare.

In the original Overture of 1849, which led to the appointment of this Committee, it seems to have been contemplated that the *Aids to Devotion* should be published under the direct and express sanction of the General Assembly. This is a course, however, which this Venerable House may not, from the limited time and opportunity afforded for examining the accompanying Forms, feel warranted at present to adopt. Nor do your Committee regard it as indispensable to the furtherance of the practical end for which they were appointed. They are inclined to think that this practical end may be attained by the publication of these Forms, after such revision as may to the Committee appear advisable, with no further sanction than that of the Committee themselves. If the Forms are calculated in any degree to supply what has hitherto been felt to be a desideratum by Presbyterian soldiers, sailors, colonists, &c., there seems no reason to doubt that the circumstance of their being carefully prepared, and deliberately issued by a large and influential Committee of the General Assembly, will of itself be sufficient to recommend them to the adoption of those parties for whose use they are designed.

It seems even desirable, that instead of at once receiving any final *imprimatur* from the General Assembly, the Forms should be still left in the hands of the Committee, so as to be subject to such amendments from time to time as actual experience may suggest. For it is not improbable that, when brought before the public, various important improvements may be suggested, not only by ministers and members of the Church at home, but by ministers and missionaries in the

Colonies, and in India, by naval and military chaplains, and other parties competent to judge of the suitableness of the Forms to the several classes for whose use they are intended. And it may be deemed proper that any such suggestions should be fully submitted to the Supreme Ecclesiastical Court before giving to the Forms its sanction and approbation.

In the event, therefore, of the General Assembly being inclined to approve *generally* of the manner in which the Committee have endeavoured to discharge the duty devolved upon them, it seems on the whole to be the more expedient course, that the Forms should, without any deliverance upon their merits, be simply referred to the Committee, to be by them revised and published, if they shall see cause.

Should this course be adopted, your Committee think it advisable that there should be appended to these Forms of Social Worship a few prayers adapted to the use of families, so as to render the compilation more generally acceptable and useful.

In Name and by Appointment of the Committee,

THOS. J. CRAWFORD, D.D.
Convener.

DELIVERANCE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE PRECEDING REPORT.

AT EDINBURGH, the Twenty-ninth day of May, Eighteen hundred and Fifty-eight years;

Which day the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland being met and constituted. *Inter alia*, called for the Report of the Committee on Aids to Devotion, which was given in and read by Dr Crawford, the Convener, who also laid on the table a collection of Forms of Worship for the use of soldiers, sailors, colonists, sojourners in India and in foreign countries, and other parties who are destitute of a settled minister.

Various members having been heard on the subject, it was moved and agreed to, that the General Assembly approve of the diligence of the Committee in prosecuting the important work intrusted to them; reappoint the Committee, with additions—Dr Crawford to be convener, and give them power, as formerly, to sub-commit and to add to their number. In regard to the Forms of Worship accompanying the Report, the General Assembly reserve, in the mean time, any deliverance upon their merits; remit them to the Committee for such farther revision and amendment as they may deem advisable, including, as proposed in the Report, the addition of a few prayers for the use of families; allow the Committee, if they shall see cause, to publish the forms as so revised, in order that the opinion of the Church may be maturely formed regarding their suitableness to the several classes for whose use they are intended—it being understood that the Forms so published have, in the mean time, only the sanction of the Committee. The General Assembly further declare, that in continuing the appointment of this Committee, with the view of providing Aids to Devotion for our countrymen who are destitute of a settled Pastor, no innovation whatever is contemplated on the ordinary services of the Church.

Extracted from the Records of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, by

JOHN LEE, *Cl. Eccl. Scot.*

third prayer is from Calvin's Collect at the end of his 29th Lecture on Jeremiah, and his *Daily Offices* prefixed to his Commentary on Job.

FIFTH MORNING SERVICE.—The prayers in this service are selected from the devotional writings of Richard Baxter.

FIFTH EVENING SERVICE.—The first paragraph is from Baxter's *Reformed Liturgy.* The sequel of the prayers in this service are compiled from the devotional writings of Dr Henry Smith, a celebrated Puritan of the days of Queen Elizabeth, whose prayers have been appended to the republication of *A Mother's Legacie to her Unborne Childe,* (Blackwoods; Edinburgh, 1853).

EXTRACT from MINUTES of MEETING of the COMMITTEE of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the CHURCH of SCOTLAND on COLONIAL CHURCHES, held the 16th February 1859.

There was laid before them copy of a work in course of being published, by permission of the General Assembly, entitled "Prayers for Social and Family Worship, prepared by the Committee of the General Assembly on Aids to Devotion, and specially designed for the use of Soldiers, Sailors, Colonists, Sojourners in India and in foreign countries, and other persons at home and abroad, who are deprived of the regular services of a Christian Ministry."

The Colonial Committee of the General Assembly, appointed to promote the spiritual interests not only of Scottish settlers in the Colonies of Great Britain, but also of Presbyterian Soldiers in the British Army, hail with satisfaction the publication of these "Aids to Devotion," to supply a desideratum long felt by members of the National Church of Scotland, when scattered abroad as sheep without a shepherd.

Further, the Committee resolve to take such prudent measures as may from time to time be suggested, with the view of furthering its circulation both in the British Army and in the Colonies.

(Signed) J. C. FOWLER, LL.D.
Convener of Colonial Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

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